



# INJURED CYCLIST IN CROSSING CALL

Report by Clare Butler

**A CAMPAIGN for a pedestrian crossing on a busy Halesowen dual-carriageway has been backed by a mother-of-two who was hit by a double decker bus on the route.**

Cyclist Sue Booth, aged 52, from Halesowen, was on her bike when she was hit by the bus on the A456 Manor Way on August 18.

Mrs Booth, who is a member of the Halesowen Athletics and Cycling Club, has been in hospital for almost two weeks and faces the possibility of never walking again.

She is now calling for a crossing to be installed outside or near to the club entrance to prevent any future accidents.

She said: "I travel to the club regularly about four or five times a week and I am faced with the perilous crossing of the A456.

"Generally I am on foot or my bike as I live near the club and this particular day in question I was attempting to access our club grounds via the pavement on the roadside of the A456 when a double decker bus mounted the kerb and took me and my bicycle with it, resulting in horrendous injuries to me.

"I face several more weeks of reconstructive surgery, I may never walk again and will face years of corrective surgery as surgeons try and fashion a fully functioning foot again."

## Supported

She continued: "This should not have happened and could so easily have been avoided with a crossing in place for people who live in the Halesowen area to use for access purposes to the Manor Way Stadium.

"We should not have to dice with death to enjoy a hobby that we all truly love."

David Viner, chairman of the club, started the campaign to have a crossing installed more than three years ago. It has been supported by MPs, several councillors, including Hilary Bills and cycling legend Hugh Porter.

Mr Viner added: "Sue is a very popular and respected member of Halesowen Athletics and Cycling Club who works extremely hard behind the scenes to support the club.

"She is always a joy to be with and everyone is willing her to make a full recovery."

He added: "I am very grateful to Councillor Bills and other local people who are working hard to get a pedestrian crossing installed."

Councillor Bills, Dudley Council's cabinet member for environmental services, said: "We think that an idea would be to link the heritage part of Halesowen to the rest and that would mean that people could cycle and walk safely without fear of crossing Manor Way.

"As a council we are constantly looking for funding and ways to implement this through certain schemes."

## FIREFIGHTERS BLAZE A TRAIL FOR YOUNG JAMES



Firefighter Matt Crawford with six-year-old James Hughes at Haden Cross Fire Station, where an open day will raise money for the child's operation

FIREFIGHTERS have organised an open day to support a family's bid to raise £40,000 for a life-changing operation for their six-year-old son.

James Hughes has cerebral palsy and spastic diplegia which means he needs help walking.

The Blackheath Primary School pupil's family have so far raised £18,000 towards an operation.

Firefighters from Haden Cross Fire Station have planned an open day this Saturday to further boost the fundraising.

James' mother Cheryl, 35, from Blackheath, said: "The station has been so good in supporting us to raise money for James' operation. We have been fundraising since February and done loads of different events. So far we've raised £18,000 for his operation, and we hope that this open day will add to that.

"James' operation, a selective dorsal rhizotomy, is to reduce the spasticity in his muscles and give him more mobility. At the moment he walks using a small frame.

"He's very happy in himself and gets around in the way he can."

Watch Commander Temple Jones, aged 49, from Haden Cross Fire Station, said: "When we found out about James we decided we wanted to do something for him, especially because he's such a local lad to the station.

"His mum Cheryl came down to the station and introduced him to us, and though he was a bit shy at first, he is definitely coming out of his shell."

The open day takes place between 10am and 4pm at the station on Halesowen Road. Previous events at the station have attracted up to 1,000 people.

## MOTORWAY

### More than 1,000 caught speeding

MORE than 1,000 drivers were caught out by average speed cameras in just two days on a stretch of the M6 which has been cut to 40mph as part of a major roadworks scheme.

Scores of speeding motorists were snared by cameras as they ignored the temporary restrictions heading south-bound between junction 7 for Great Barr and 8 for the M5 over the weekend.

Those caught out could now face a fine or even a court appearance, depending on their driving record.

## RESERVOIR

### Girl rescued after water-ski accident

A 14-year-old girl was rescued after plunging into the water when going over a water-ski jump at a reservoir.

Staff at Dudley Watersports Centre, next to Lodge Farm Reservoir at, Netherton, brought the girl to the water's edge where she was treated by paramedics, following the incident at 3pm on Wednesday last week. She was taken to Russells Hall Hospital. An ambulance service spokesman said: "She had back pain so was given pain relief before being taken to hospital."

## VANDALISM

### Security stepped up after arson attack

EXTRA security is being brought in at a derelict former school in Stourbridge after an arson attack.

A fire broke out at the old Longlands School site on Friday and is being treated as arson. The site is being boarded up with 24-hour patrols on site.

The school was most recently used by Stourbridge College, who posted on Twitter on Saturday: "We confirm that 24-hour security is in place this weekend and the site is being boarded up."

Councillor Nick Barlow had called for assurances on security for concerned residents.

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# Tributes made to popular motorcyclist



Elliott Beddow – bright light

THE family of a 20-year-old motorcyclist killed after a crash in Brierley Hill have paid tribute to their 'ray of sunshine'.

Apprentice engineer Elliott Beddow died after coming off his black Harley Davidson on Brettell Lane in Brierley Hill at around 2.10am on Saturday.

His mother Katie paid tribute to her son, describing him as the family joker. She said: "We have lost the brightest light, our ray of sunshine and the family joker."

"We are struggling to come to terms

with the fact that Elliott has gone. He has left an enormous void that we will never fill. He was fiercely loyal and protective of those he loved."

Despite the efforts of emergency services, Mr Beddow, of Stourton, was pronounced dead at the scene near Brettell Lane's junction with Silver Street and the road was closed until just after 7am.

Other tribute were paid online to Mr Beddow, who worked at Katie Fitzgerald's in Stourbridge.

Alix Ferguson posted on Facebook: "He was my best friend for years, we

used to climb trees and fall out of them, play on the trampoline and jump off it, watch the Simpsons and laugh. Recently when I would see him he would still hug me like we were 12. RIP to the most reliable, lovely, amazing soul."

Bosses at the pub where he worked released a tribute to Mr Beddow, stating: "All of us here at Katie Fitzgerald's are saddened and stunned by the loss of our friend and colleague Elliott Beddow, or El Philo as he is known by many. His death will leave a huge hole in many people's lives."

# Crash victim Declan home from hospital

A TEENAGER who suffered a brain injury after being knocked off his moped in January has returned home from hospital.

Declan Osborne was hit by a car near his home in Rowley Regis and the 17-year-old spent weeks in a coma and had to learn to talk again.

His older sister Nicole says he still has a difficult journey ahead.

He is back home after months in hospital and a brain rehabilitation unit.

Nicole, 27, said: "He's here, that's the main thing, his life wasn't taken. But he's not the same, every aspect of his life has changed."

"He has lost a lot of his cognitive skills and his confidence has been knocked. He has had one of the most serious brain injuries, on the brain stem."

The young Albion fan's life changed when his moped was hit near Mackmillan Road on January 30. He suffered a broken collarbone, fractured cheekbone and ankle plus multiple other fractures.

Nicole said: "He had to learn to communicate with us again. He used to tap his tongue to get our attention. He is talking again now but he's totally different."

## College

"If we talk to loud or more than one of us talks at the same time, he can't handle it."

"His whole daily routine has changed. He won't be able to go back to college and might not be able to go on his bike again. That's what kills him. He sees all his friends on their bikes but he can't do it."

Nicole says she and her father Michael have had to learn how to care for Declan. She said: "We have got to adjust to looking after someone with a brain injury. We have had no training. Everything is all over the place like a jigsaw and we have got to find the pieces and make sure he is safe and comfortable. His life completely changed in a split second."

Declan, who attended Ormiston Forge Academy in Cradley Heath, is now facing a gruelling rehabilitation programme as he continues his recovery.

And Nicole said: "It's hard. In some aspects it's like I have lost the person he was before the accident but I can only be thankful he is still here. He is in the best hands and is getting the best care."

## Time for thinking outside the box



Sculptor Tim Tolkien and Cradley Heath Creative secretary Elizabeth Lee with arts centre on wheels the 'Oss Box

INTEREST is soaring in the quirky mobile 'Oss box arts venue which has been popping up in various locations across the Black Country.

The converted 1970s horse box spends most of its time in Cradley Heath but recently ventured to West Bromwich for the Sandwell Arts Festival.

The travelling performance vessel is the creation of Cradley Heath Creative.

So far it has been used for shadow puppetry, musical perfor-

mances and a camera obscurer. It is currently under going work so one of the side doors can drop down to create a touring stage.

Tim Tolkien, famous for his metal sculpting works – most notably the 50 foot Sentinel sculpture on Spire Island, near the M6 in Birmingham – is the man tasked with the transforming the 'Oss Box.

He said: "I joined Cradley Heath Creative just over a year ago and there was a small surplus of money,

so out of conversations at the pubs came the idea of the 'Oss Box.

"Originally we were just thinking of ideas for a little venue, which was a shed, then became a caravan, before ending on a horse box."

Mr Tolkien, who is the great-nephew of The Lord of the Rings author J.R.R. Tolkien, says he is excited by the potential of the 'Oss Box. "It's only going to improve. We'll put a sound system in their next and really will turn into a portable arts venue," he added.

# Free days to explore the heritage on our doorstep

PEOPLE can discover historic venues on their doorsteps for free during the Heritage Open Days taking place at various venues from tonight (Thursday) to Sunday.

There is lots going on in the heart of the Black Country at Cradley Heath's Haden Hill with Proms in the Park on Sunday from 2pm. Tours of historic Haden Hill Park take place tonight and tomorrow. The Best's Angels exhibition of Victorian photographs is on show at Haden Hill House Museum on all the Heritage Days and Haden Old Hall has an open weekend.

The Black Country Living Museum is running behind the scenes tours of its stores on Saturday. Railway and theatre memorabilia plus props from ghost tours will be on show at the Castle Hotel on Castle Hill over the weekend.

St Peter's Church in Kinver is open to visitors on Saturday, the Quaker Meeting House in Scotts Road, Stourbridge, is open Saturday and Sunday. There will be 3pm tower tours at St John's Church, Hagley, on Saturday and Sunday. Friends of Lye & Wollescote Cemetery will lead guided walks around the cemetery on Saturday at 10:30am and 12:30.

Other venues taking part include Churchill Forge, near Hagley; and Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Aston Hall, Singers Hill Synagogue, the Pen Museum and Newman Brothers in the Jewellery Quarter and the Back To Backs on Hurst Street, Birmingham.

See the Heritage Open Days website for further details.

# Primary school expansion plans

A PRIMARY school in Halesowen has revealed plans to expand.

Seven new classrooms and a dining hall would be created at Newfield Primary School in Whittingham Road, under plans lodged with Dudley Council.

A new parking area would also be created along with an access drive. Disused buildings would be knocked down to make way for a new dining hall.

A decision on the plans is expected in the next few months.

Meanwhile, another primary school in Halesowen is set to become an academy. Tenterfields Primary School is set to make the change for the new school year, which would see it become independent of the local authority. The school received a 'good' rating when it was inspected by Ofsted in 2012.

# It's time to take a bow with orchestra

STOURBRIDGE Orchestra needs more strings players. The orchestra which meets weekly in Amblecote and give three concerts a year. Rehearsals are on Mondays at the Unicorn Centre, Amblecote. Call (01384) 373111 or go to [www.stourcos.org.uk](http://www.stourcos.org.uk) website.

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# Man admits arson attack endangering two people

A 34-YEAR-OLD man has admitted starting a fire in a house with the intention of endangering the life of a woman and a young girl who were inside the property.

Daniel Watkins denied attempting to murder the pair, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, when he appeared at Wolverhampton Crown Court. The pleas were accepted by the prosecution.

The defendant, of Smiths Close, Alcester, pleaded guilty to recklessly committing arson when intending to destroy or damage a house in Cradley, thereby endangering the life of the woman and child.

Mr Alwyn Jones, defending, explained that 'traits of the character' of Watkins required further investigation by a psychiatrist following an initial assessment. The defendant was remanded in custody and will be sentenced at a later date.

The woman and child were rescued from the burning house after neighbours heard cries for help shortly before 2am on June 3.

Matthew Smith, West Midlands Fire Service spokesman, said at the time: "One child and a woman were rescued by police and given precautionary checks before being taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation."

"We received a call from police alerting us to the fire."

"We had three fire engines with four firefighters using breathing apparatus and two hose reel jets."

# Councillor's appeal over suspension

A DUDLEY councillor, who was suspended from the council's Labour group, has launched an appeal against the decision.

The party whip was removed from Councillor Jackie Cowell, who represents the Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood ward, last month amid an investigation into her conduct. No further details have been released as to why she has been suspended.

Councillor Cowell, who was chairwoman of the authority's planning committee before her suspension, said she was waiting to hear the outcome of the appeal. She added: "I expect the decision to be overturned."

Councillor Cowell is still able to attend council meetings but not as an official Labour member.

# Restaurant blaze caused by fridge

A FIRE that gutted a popular Dudley restaurant was accidental, started by an electrical fault in a fridge. That's the findings of fire service probe into the cause of a devastating blaze at Hickory's Smokehouse in Wall Heath.

# College performing arts centre opens



Viscount Cobham, principal Keith Bate, Mayor and Mayoress of Dudley Zebeda and Mohammed Hanif and Halesowen College Corporation chairman Leslie Williams

HALESOWEN College's new Performing Arts Centre was officially opened Viscount Cobham last Friday.

The opening marks the final phase of the college's ambitious £20 million redevelopment and launched the new Whittingham Road campus.

The new Performance Centre has been custom-built to provide outstanding facilities for all aspects of the Performing Arts.

Visitors were able to watch students take part in dance and

acting workshops in the new performance spaces and were treated to live music from student Claudia Whittall, who gave an acoustic guitar and vocal performance in the new theatre.

## Sculpture

The launch event also featured a 50th anniversary exhibition, which included the unveiling of a heritage sculpture designed by former art and design student, Ben Rose.

Principal Keith Bate said: "I

am delighted with this final addition to the fantastic accommodation at Halesowen College, which is the culmination of a five year redevelopment plan.

"This investment will benefit performing arts students and the opening of the centre is a suitable celebration of 50 years of exemplary education."

A higher education advice evening is being held at the college from 5pm to 8pm on Wednesday, September 14.

# Call to protect pubs from store schemes

CAMPAIGNERS are calling for new laws to prevent thriving pubs from being redeveloped, after it was revealed two in Dudley borough would be bulldozed to make way for supermarkets.

The Summer House in Woodsetton and the Maypole Inn in Halesowen are to be knocked down after the Co-op won its battle to have stores built on the sites.

Both pubs are currently open. Dudley Council originally refused both applications but an independent planning inspector ruled in favour of the supermarket chain.

Meanwhile, a store is also built on the car park of the Ashwood Inn in Wordsley, though the pub itself will continue.

Customers and councillors have been left furious by the decision and there are now calls for new laws to be drafted that protect profitable pubs from the threat of redevelopment.

Jacqui Edwards, social secretary at the Dudley and South Staffordshire branch of the Campaign for Real Ale, lives near the Summer House in Woodsetton. She said: "It is a shame, it is a nice little old boozer."

"Some of the pubs we have lost have been little gems, architecturally unusual and reminiscent of the heyday when there used to be lots of unique back street boozers with their own little quirks."

"Anything that can be done to save them should be welcomed. It should be about what it best for the community. But it is yet another wealthy supermarket."

## Decisions

Sedgley councillor and UKIP Euro MP Bill Etheridge said: "Time and again, people from out of our area are making decisions on what is best for the residents. Power really does need to be returned to people. Who better to know the troubles of traffic than those who live in the area?"

"On a larger scale, this Government have repeatedly failed the licensed trade. We have enough convenience stores. Our pubs need protection."

New River Retail bought both pubs as part of a portfolio of property from Marston's three years ago.

Regular drinkers and families attended a charity fun day on Sunday in a show of support for the beleaguered Summer House but campaigners have admitted there is now little that can be done to save it following the ruling of the planning inspector.

Woodsetton councillor Dean Perks said: "The amount of people that were there shows that this pub is sustainable."



Dudley North MP Ian Austin, right, and Councillor Keiran Casey sign the Summer House petition

# New generation of airships go to Alaska

A BLACK Country aviation company has been drafted in to take next generation hybrid airships to Alaska.

The deal will see Straightline Aviation, based near Stourbridge, provide one of the world's first heavy-lift hybrid airships to work in America's largest and least populated state from 2019.

Straightline, based at Halfpenny Green Airport, is buying

a dozen LMH-1 airships from Lockheed. Alaskan-based PRL Logistics, which runs projects for companies in oil and gas, mining, defence, construction and environmental industries, is the first to sign up to use one of the airships to gain access to hard-to-reach sites.

Ron Hyde, founder and CEO of PRL Logistics, said: "With PRL's understanding of the

complexities of working in Alaska's extremely remote sites, our partnership with Straightline Aviation, whose airship operating experience is unparalleled, means this will be a true game changer."

Mike Kendrick, founder and CEO of Straightline Aviation, said: "Together we will usher in a new environmentally friendly age of air transport."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

# Hospital to take on more nurses

RUSSELLS Hall Hospital in Dudley will be taking on more nurses.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, which runs the hospital, will be holding a recruitment open day on September 24. Those attending will be given the opportunity to spend time with nursing teams, meet chief nurses and visit various departments.

The event starts at 10am at the Clinical Education Centre at Russells Hall.

Bosses are hoping to fill a number of vacancies that are currently available at the hospital.

# National accolade for youth service

DUDLEY Youth Service has received national recognition for setting up a youth health forum.

The Youth on Board Awards selected the Dudley group as innovation award winners.

Run in conjunction with Dudley Council and Healthwatch Dudley, the group ran workshops and a survey that let youngsters talk about health issues. More than 1,100 took part in the survey and the project was so successful the results were shared as best practice at a NHS Youth Forum Conference.

# Age Alliance mark Older People's Day

AGE Alliance in Dudley is organising a special event for Older People's Day, later this month. It is inviting pensioners to book a place at the event in Brierley Hill Methodist Church in Bank Street on Thursday, September 29, from 10.30am to 2.30pm.

There will be a chance to try out seated exercise, learn relaxation techniques and have a go at crafts. Call (01384) 354508 or find out more at brierleyhillmethodistchurch.org.uk website.

# Learn songs then sing in same day concert

ST Paul's Singers in the Black Country are offering budding singers the chance to join them at a rehearsal and then appear with them in concert that same day.

Lovers of songs from the shows can join them at St Paul's Church in Long Lane, Blackheath, to learn the songs from 10am to 1pm on Saturday, September 17 - and then they can return to perform a free concert at the same venue at 7pm. All are welcome.

# Pallet plea for bonfire

BUSINESSES are being asked to donate wooden pallets to be used at this year's big bonfire at Himley Hall and Park, organised by Dudley Council.

Thousands of people are expected to flock to the park grounds for the annual bonfire and firework display on Saturday, November 5.

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I AM assured this story of the NHS in the 21st century is true. An acquaintance, worried about her cough, arranged a phone appointment with her GP. He asked her to cough into the phone and assured her the cough was nothing to worry about. I know what you are thinking. The same question is haunting me, too. How does the GP on the telephone diagnose wind? And who would want to use the phone afterwards?

Farewell, Ken Purchase, the former Wolverhampton North East MP, who has died aged 77. He was one of the good guys, an old-fashioned socialist with a passion to help those harmed by their so-called betters. More than 20 years ago I was contacted by a former mental hospital patient who in the 1960s had been an uninformed guinea pig for LSD treatment. Suffering from post-natal depression, she had been injected with the mind-bending drug by a doctor who announced: "Let's see what this does."



Her life for the next 30 years was blighted by depression and flashbacks, made worse by the fact that the medical establishment repeatedly brushed her off. When her story appeared, other victims of the treatment came forward. I took the dossier to Ken Purchase. He raised it in Parliament. Eventually, about 40 victims shared £200,000 compensation. Not a huge sum but that didn't matter. What mattered was that these women, treated as hypochondriacs or troublemakers, had been proved right. RIP, Ken. Shame there are not more like you.

THERESA May has launched a nationwide audit to monitor how people from various ethnic backgrounds are treated by public services. And what will happen when they discover what is already known, but rarely whispered? It is the fact that some of the worst educational results, highest levels of illiteracy, gravest incidences of domestic violence, suicide and infant mortality, highest levels of crime and lowest uptake of vaccinations, are found not among newly-arrived migrants from the Third World but in the traveller and gypsy communities which have lived in Britain for centuries?

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Women were taken on terror ride by robbers

**ARMED robbers stole a car in Stourbridge to make their getaway with two terrified women on the back seat – one of them aged 88.**

The hammer-wielding crooks struck at the One Stop convenience store in Hungry Hill just after 9pm on Sunday, but their car stalled. They then stole a Ford Mondeo which had stopped nearby as a family used a cashpoint, apparently not realising that the pensioner and another woman, aged 37, were sitting in the back.

**By Jamie Brassington**

The shaken women were dumped by the roadside soon after when the masked criminals realised that they had passengers. Police said the same suspects had carried out a raid on the Co-operative store in Glebe Lane, Norton, less than an hour before.

Investigating officer Sergeant Rich Narrowmore said: "The younger woman was slightly injured and both of them were terribly shaken by their ordeal."

"We are keen to trace these men as soon as possible. These were violent attacks with little thought for their victims and they need to be brought to justice quickly."

He added: "I would urge anyone with information to contact police on 101 as soon as possible."

The men threatened staff with hammers at both stores and stole cash and cigarettes.

The vehicle was recovered in Bromley Street, Lye, and officers were examining it for clues alongside the abandoned getaway vehicle, a sil-

ver Volkswagen Golf. Police said the 37-year-old woman suffered a leg injury.

A family friend, Abdul Qadus, 59, from Stourbridge, said: "They stole my friend's car while his family were inside. They were pleading with the men to let them out, which they did up the road."

"They got in my friend's car while his wife was getting cash from the machine. His wife had asked him to come over for some reason and then they jumped into his car after they failed to start another car."

Officers are studying CCTV images in a bid to identify the robbers.

A spokesperson from Central England Co-operative said: "The members of staff on duty were unharmed, but they were obviously shaken by the incident and our primary concern is their safety and wellbeing. We are currently working with the police while they investigate this matter."

## Bling and bikes in auction



Martin Whitehead with items going under the hammer

FROM designer bags and watches to power tools, bikes and booze – goods recovered by police are going under the hammer today (Thursday) in Dudley.

The 371 items have either been stolen and recovered from criminals or found by West Midlands Police. They will all go up for auction with much of the cash generated going back to the force or community projects.

Among the items are expensive handbags, including Louis Vuitton, Michael Kors and Ralph Lauren. Michael Kors and Hugo Boss wrist-watches will be sold, along with a Stella McCartney purse and two pairs of Ray-Ban sunglasses.

Dudley-based Aston's Auctioneers & Valuers is selling the items on behalf of the police and the auction takes place at Baylies Hall on Tower Street from noon.

Bidders can log in online to buy lots if they cannot make it to the saleroom in person.

Most items have no reserve and viewing starts at 9am in the nearby Castle Saleroom on The Broadway. It costs £5 per person. For a full catalogue of items in the auction visit [www.atsauctioneers.co.uk](http://www.atsauctioneers.co.uk)

## Industrial property firm talks on i54 site

HALESOWEN industrial property group A & J Mucklow has confirmed it is in 'detailed talks' with a company to take on the first of three new factories on Wolverhampton's i54 development site.

Already the home of Jaguar Land Rover's engine plant and aerospace company Moog, the site has 15 acres currently available for new factories.

Mucklow was brought in by Wolverhampton City Council and Staffordshire County Council last year to promote and develop the plot. Company chairman Rupert Mucklow said: "We are currently in detailed discussions on the first proposed pre-let building of 43,000 sq ft."

Two bigger factory buildings are also planned.

Mr Mucklow revealed progress on the i54 site as his company revealed that vacancy rates across its portfolio of sites had fallen to a record low of 3.2 per cent by the end of June.

The group's underlying pre-tax profit increased by 7.9 per cent during its financial year to the end of June, to £15 million, as the group's portfolio value increased from £349.7m to £364.2m.

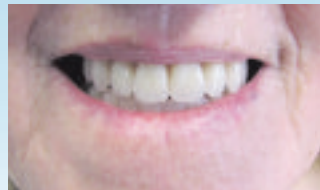
Rupert Mucklow said it had been another solid performance by the group, adding: "Since our year end and post the EU referendum, the regional property market has remained buoyant."

### ADVERTISEMENT

Denture Clinic Principal Steven Burchell  
Dip CDT RCS(Eng) GDC 108353 with his  
thrilled patient Theresa Reardon

# London > Budapest > Dudley

Newspaper cutting finally ends  
dental tourist's quest for smile



Above: Theresa's new corrected smile  
Below: Her badly fitting and painful old dentures



**When Theresa Reardon from London set out on a mission to fix a longstanding dental problem she never imagined it would take a lifetime's search before finding the answer . . . in Dudley.**

Even a trip as a dental tourist to a Budapest clinic delivered only disappointment.

Remarkably, she never lost hope that one day she'd stumble upon a happy clinical outcome, despite decades of false dawns. Even more exceptional was that that although in her senior years her singularly determined endeavour was not diminished by the passing of time or the catalogue of dental failures that charted her life.

"I was determined to find an answer and I found Mr Steven Burchell at the Denture Clinic," she declares.

Her breakthrough came eight years ago while looking after a doctor in Wolverhampton,

but never realised a story she was reading in the local newspaper would have such an impact on her daily living.

The devout Catholic from County Cork in southern Ireland, who moved to London when she was 25, adds: "I'd come to Wolverhampton and in a quiet moment was reading the free paper, The Chronicle. I saw a story there about a lady who couldn't eat properly and how Steven had sorted her out, so I kept the cutting."

Eight years passed before she was prompted to look at the narrative again after her denture prescription from the Hungarian capital broke.

"I read it over and over again, booked an appointment, got on the train and made my way to Dudley," she recalls.

Theresa suffered all her denture life with a protruding lower bite where the bottom teeth are more prominent than the upper. This can sometimes make chewing difficult and

patients self-conscious. "I could never bite an apple and had to chew very carefully. My bottom dentures were so unstable my diet was always restricted," she says.

Staff at the clinic in North Street were shocked to learn she had travelled alone to her appointment and was returning to her Golders Green apartment in London the same day.

### I'll have steak

"Nothing was going to stop me," she added. "The teeth I'd been made ten years before in Budapest were useless and they hurt like hell. My new ones don't hurt at all and for the very first time my top teeth can come over my bottom teeth."

On the day her new prescription was fitted she decided to celebrate with a meal out at the Miller & Carter steakhouse in Penn.

"I was advised to take it gently, but my

teeth felt so good I thought I'll have a steak," she says.

It was the first time Theresa could tackle such a "difficult meal". With schoolgirl laughter she adds: "I loved it. It was worth waiting for."

Admitting to a regular tippie of red wine (Shiraz and Merlot are her favourites) she's determined to carry on celebrating her new teeth and making the best of her restored confidence.

"I may even manage the odd glass of sherry," she jokes. "It's been a long time coming and I'm so grateful that I don't have to put my hand over my mouth any more. I was always afraid to smile, but now . . . look at me, all thanks to Steven."

Theresa's problems began when at 18 she took a job as a doctor's receptionist in Cork. She was advised to have a full clearance after gum disease was diagnosed.

"The bite on every set of teeth I had was

never right until now," she says.

Theresa left Cork with two other girls to stay with an order of nuns in Harrow.

"I was helping at a nursing home. The Reverend Mother sent my two friends back home but encouraged me to apply for a job with the Queen's Household and I worked as a deputy catering supervisor at Buckingham Palace."

Reflecting on her colourful life, she adds in a beautifully musical Cork accent: "Every year I get a Christmas card from the Queen."

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## HSBC is to close more branches

BANKING giant HSBC will axe four high street branches in the Black Country and Staffordshire – with its Smethwick branch closing at the end of this week.

The firm said it will close the branches after seeing as much as a 40 per cent fall in the number of people using them in the last five years. All staff will be redeployed.

Many have been angered by the move, including Warley MP John Spellar, who said: "If you run small businesses, and many deal in cash, many have been dealing with HSBC and its predecessor, the Midland Bank. Smethwick High Street is a thriving shopping centre and I don't think the banks are looking at their local obligations or the loyalty the customers have shown to them. It is short term cost cutting rather than thinking about customers and the banks themselves."

Smethwick's High Street branch will shut on Friday, followed by three branches in Staffordshire. HSBC's Cradley Heath's branch closed in June and its Blackheath High Street bank shut in November 2013.

A HSBC spokeswoman said: "We have seen an overall reduction in footfall at our branches of more than 40 per cent and sometimes we have to make the difficult decision to close branches."

## Trespassers caused train service delays

TRAIN services were affected in the Black Country after trespassers got onto the railway line between Tipton and Dudley Port.

People got onto the tracks at around 2pm on Monday, affecting services. The alert meant trains passing through the area were forced to travel at lower speeds.

# Farmers' club is gearing up to celebrate 70th anniversary

## Care home has a cinema and hair salon



Amanda Tomlinson, centre, with Councillor Pete Bilson and night manager Maria Smith in a lounge at Gower Gardens

THIS is the first look inside a three storey 66-bedroom care complex in Halesowen that has a cafe, hair salon and even a cinema.

Gower Gardens in Kent Road opened its doors to the public for an exclusive preview event before the first residents move in. Around 22 rooms are already reserved at the home – which cost £5 million to build – before it officially opens in January.

Amanda Tomlinson, chief executive of Black Country Housing Group (BCHG), described it as being 'more like a hotel' than a care home.

She said: "We are incredibly proud of it and what a beautiful building it is. It will provide high quality accommodation for people in the borough."

"I think people have a perception of care homes as quite institutional but this is more like a hotel."

Around 50 jobs have been created at the home, from care assistants to kitchen staff.

The complex boasts three separate living areas for those who are dependent, independent and diagnosed with dementia. All rooms are en-suite with modern facilities such as Wi-Fi, fridges and flat screen TVs. The second floor has a coffee shop, hair salon and cinema with popcorn machine.

## A COUNTRYSIDE show will be held to celebrate the 70th anniversary of Halesowen and Hagley Farmers' Club.

The club, which had its origins in a ploughing match in 1946, originally met at Newbrook Farm, Frankley. It led to the formation the following year of the Halesowen and Hagley Farmers' and Young Farmers' Club.

The first two shows were held at Manor Lane, in Lapal, and competitions included ploughing, hedging, farm livestock, horses and pony classes and jumping.

Conrad Palmer, of the club, said: "We are proud that the organisation and its show has survived over the years with the ups and downs of the times."

"One of the most significant events over this time was the recurrence of Foot & Mouth Disease across the country in 2001 with the resultant affects of the show being cancelled in that year."

"The 'on-farm' competitions have remained throughout with dairy, beef and sheep herds being judged together with competitions for growing crops of wheat, barley, oats and for the best all-round farms."

### Horse

"Since the move to a Sunday, the club has been fortunate to have some fantastic sites in the Romsley area, which has brought the show back into the heart of our area and enabled us to increase the horse show significantly."

Current membership is in excess of 100 and is not exclusive to those in agriculture as the club welcome anyone with an interest in the countryside.

For further information email hh.farmersclub@gmail.com.

The 70th Anniversary Countryside Show will be held on September 18, at Field House Lane, Romsley, from 10am. Admission is £2 including parking, under 16s are free.

## Family fun day is being held for Barnardo's

CHILDREN'S charity Barnardo's is marking its 150th anniversary with a family fun day in Halesowen later this month.

Staff from the charity's regional office in Great Cornbow have teamed up with local services to offer fun and games at Halesowen Cricket Club in Seth Somers Park on September 18 from 11am-3pm.

Attractions will include fairground rides, circus skills, live music and dancing, together with a visit from some of the animals from Dudley Zoo.

Barnardo's regional assistant director for children's services Emily Phelps said: "We wanted to arrange a special event to mark the 150th anniversary of the charity and everything that it has achieved over the years."

"Admission is free but we hope to raise a significant sum of money through a raffle, tombola and donations."

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# Carpenters top of the world for schmaltz

AN awful lot of nostalgia surrounding The Carpenters is appearing on our TV screens at the moment.

Now don't get me wrong, Karen Carpenter was one of last century's most appealing and enduring vocal talents and her brother – pianist and musical arranger extraordinaire Richard – would have been a classical prodigy of immense scale (geddit?) had he been born several decades earlier.

It tickled my fancy somewhat then, when among the absolute gorgeous classics such as Rainy Days and Mondays, Yesterday Once More and Solitaire, a top-20 countdown dredged up dross like Top of the World, Jambalaya and what was at number 1? Please Mr Postman!

But apparently the Great British public loved this record by the duo more than any other. That is the problem with acts such as these, we all remember growing up with the embarrassing tunes your mother would hum along to, whilst secretly harbouring a liking for the more soul-wrenching musical probings.

Abba also springs to mind with their mix of absolute pop gold alongside teenybopper oompah rubbish.

Mark my words, silly sentimentality will exude even more at Christmastime, when we shall see David Bowie and Bing back in the charts with Little Drummer Boy/Peace on Earth, following the Ziggy Stardust star's untimely demise earlier this year.

Whatever happened to good old rock and roll?

It seems Keith Vaz, the indomitable chairman of the Commons Home Office select committee, has got himself in another spot of bother. Apparently, the incriminating words, allegedly told to an East European male prostitute, were: "Bring some poppers, let's get this party started."

Anyway, however embarrassing he might find the present claims, at least he can console himself he is not his former colleague Ed Balls, who will over the next few weeks suffer the indignity of prancing about on national television dressed in brightly-coloured Lycra.

Now that's proper humiliation – just ask Ann Widdecombe.

Our tennis players are serving up a wealth of success, following Andy Murray's gold in the Olympics, adding to his Wimbledon title and the success in the Davis Cup.

Fans of the sport have plenty to shout about and now we have, not one but, several players who are rising rapidly up the ranks, such as Birmingham's Dan Evans and Kyle Edmunds who are making this country proud, even when Djokovic stopped him in his tracks across the pond. Shame Big Sam's England footballers don't follow suit.

## 25 years of research on regiment finally comes to fruition

### SGT JAMES PITT



Noted for bravery

James William Pitt was born in Hednesford in April 1885 and was commended for his bravery after reorganising a trench garrison when he was buried under debris and injured after shells hit their position.

### PTE WILLIAM MANFORD



Joined up aged 15

Born in 1898, William was the son of William and Jane Manford, and had lived in Smith Street in Bilston. He won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for bravery when retrieving a machine gun.

### PTE CHARLES TUCKLEY



Served in France

Private Charles Henry Tuckley, who was originally from Walsall but lived in Wood Green, near Wednesbury, was awarded a Distinguished Conduct Medal, for his acts of gallantry during a patrol at Quinchy.

### L/CPL JOHN GOUGH



Wounded in battle

John Gough was born on December 4 in 1890 at Darlaston. He was taken prisoner on October 31, 1914, near Gheluvelt in Belgium then held as a POW. He got a Distinguished Conduct Medal.

# Insight into the lives of 'ordinary' soldiers

A historian has captured the mood of troops in the Great War through their own words. **TOM OAKLEY reports**

**IT tells the tales of men from across Staffordshire and the Black Country who fought for their King and country in the First World War.**

South Staffords at War is an anthology with collections of biographies, newspaper reports and diaries from 25 years of research on soldiers of the South Staffordshire Regiment.

Collated by Andrew Thornton, who is originally from Cannock, it gives an insight into the life of soldiers including former workers with the Chronicle's sister paper, the Express & Star – Joseph Nicholls of Wombourne and Ronald Lerry of Oswestry.

The work is split into two volumes, with both of them featuring soldiers' stories from the Great War.

Soldiers from across the West Midlands – Hednesford, Cannock, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Tipton, among others – are included.

### Thinking

Andrew told of how words written by the troops during the war are sometimes neglected in books.

He said: "I've been interested in soldiers of the South Staffordshire Regiment for about 25 years now.

"I wanted to tell the soldiers' stories, and use their letters, because I don't think many people know what the soldiers were thinking at the time.

"There are constantly articles of the untold story but usually it isn't untold and it's been told many times before.

"I just wanted to put their own words and thoughts out there for people to read themselves.

"I think a lot of time, similar books focus only on the soldiers on war memorials, but this book tells the story of those that survived the war as well as soldiers that died."

Andrew was invited to Westminster Abbey earlier this year after his work was spotted on Facebook. He contributed the account of a



Andrew Thornton with his books on the South Staffordshire Regiment in the Great War, by the Ancient Order of Foreresters memorial at St Lukes, Cannock

soldier, Sidney Richards, from West Bromwich, who was at Gommecourt on July 1, 1916.

The words were read out by an actor in front of an audience featuring the Queen and former Prime Minister David Cameron.

Andrew added: "The book tells the tales of ordinary soldiers.

"A lot of people read war poetry and about those that have been executed at war for desertion, but these are just ordinary soldiers that don't get much recognition usually.

"I've been researching soldiers for 25 years

now, since I was at Wolverhampton University. It's been a long time but I've had a bit of time on my hands recently.

"I'd been helping people with their own books so I thought it was time to do my own," he added.

"I enjoy being able to find out about the men and sharing the stories. It's nice to be able to get hold of a piece of information like a letter or name and seeing what you can find out about them."

Andrew, who now works as a full-time his-

torical researcher, has used various methods to gather the stories and letters to go in the book, many of which were published in local newspapers during the Great War.

Others are from diaries which have been provided by relatives of the soldiers.

"It's nice if relatives of people in the book might come across it and find out something they didn't know. That's why I do it," Andrew added.

The books are currently available on Amazon and from The Museum of Cannock Chase.

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# Spend more on trains not the trams

FOR 50 years our dear transport, planners, strategists, managers and darling politicians have been resolute and persistent in thinking that urban railway lines were for cars and lorries to use and for homes and hotels to be run down them. An intriguing departure from normal transport practice. About 80km in the Black Country and Birmingham have gone this way.

More by accident than design, one main line railway was not destroyed for homes, trading estates and roads. Our terrific transport personnel are now turning the UK's most important, un-

used but easily reinstated, double track intercity line into use by two different kinds of slow trams.

We are now to have very light rail and light rail, very slow and slow – a shuttle tram and a Midland Metro tram – going on 9km out of 65km that are unused, unused for passenger trains, would you believe, on this nationally vital but overlooked 120km main line railway between Worcester and Derby. This is complete idiocy!

There is £55.7bn for HS2. Not a dickie-bird for the 115km double track railway lines in the West Midlands

without a single passenger train or station.£6m per km for Scotland's new rural rail line last year, according to RailNews. And £106 million per km for Birmingham – Brum, getting all the money, yet again – for road running Metro trams to replace buses to grandiose Grand Central Shopping Centre and the diesel-perfumed basement station. A similar sum of £106m per km for status symbol trams to the even more prestigious HS2 stations for Brum. Enough said.

**TIM WELLER**  
Halesowen

## Honours debased by flunkies

KNIGHTHOODS are a worthless currency, a de-based recognition of merit, and peerages nothing more than rewards for flunkies and failures. So why on earth would we want to give our Olympic champions such a futile 'honour'?

We have seen through David Cameron when he decided to honour his wife's hair-dresser. Would Mo Farah really want to be in the same club as 'Sir' Philip Green?

Years ago we felt that to be a knight was reward for merit, now we know its nothing more than a bought accolade. Look around, liars, cheats and drunkards and we haven't even got out of the Commons.

Perhaps if her majesty would clean up this cesspit then the honours list would have merit and to call someone 'Sir' really have a meaning because at the moment it would be an insult to any of our Olympians.

**S T VAUGHAN**  
Yardley Wood

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Dudley Chronicle,  
Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

### EMAIL

dudley.chron@  
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

## Brexit aftermath – clues can be seen financial markets

THE stock market is indicating a UK slow down, dateable from the Brexit decision.

For those who say the stock market is doing well, the answer is: learn to read the market carefully.

Shares in companies with the majority of their income in dollars or earned overseas are doing well. Companies tied closely to the UK market in sterling are doing worse.

This has occurred after the Bank of England cut interest rates in half to 0.25 percent, using its last standard interest rate weapon to prop up the economy.

It is only left with a zero interest rate, very much uncharted territory for us, and even more printing of money.

I look forward to the time when the British people have a say on the reality of Brexit rather than some nebulous notion of sovereignty and a general 'we dislike foreigners' campaign.

**DAVID TAYLOR**  
Wombourne

## Fill your Room 101 with these

ARE there others who like me, would like to join in eliminating pet irritations to Room 101?

My list would be:

1) Being manipulated into doing everything electronically, no more quick phone calls. War could mean just cutting off our electricity.

2) The frustrating recorded message when you ring the Royal Mail and also up there is the BT call line.

3) Being coerced into payments by Direct Debit when a Standing Order would suit me better.

4) The term OMG as an exclamation, also 'do you know what I mean' every few sentences, or 'at this moment in time' instead of 'now', or 'end of day'.

I tell myself off for letting small things irritate.

There is a lot to like and admire in other folk, but I see them clearest after ejecting negative thoughts.

**MRS M LAW**  
Wordsley

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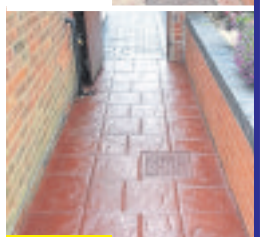
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**FIVE MINUTES FROM MERRY HILL**



# Izzy busy with catchy jazz-pop

## ALBUMS

by Leon Burakowski

**IZZY** Bizu has boho charm with her light and lilting style of jazzy acoustic soul but her quirky, perky skitter-scat style of singing may irritate as many as it captivates.

At her best this Londoner of Ethiopian heritage, who got lots of exposure by touring as support to Sam Smith, can be captivating on her debut album **A Moment of Madness**.

Naïve Soul could certainly appeal to fans of Paloma Faith, Give Me Love is a galloping slice of uptempo soul-pop heaven, White Tiger is an infectious piano-led jazz-pop earworm and she wears her heart on her sleeve for the emotional Mad Behaviour.

Three and a half years on from her self-titled debut, Merseyside singer-songwriter **Natalie McCool** returns with **The Great Unknown**, a quirky and spiky set of alternative pop songs which are both subtly emotive and catchy. Highlights include the anthemic Fortress and the Radio 1 playlisted Cardiac Arrest.

Catch her in concert at Birmingham's Sunflower Lounge on September 24.

Pop Idol and soon to be Strictly Come Dancing contestant **Will Young** follows up last year's excellent 85% Proof album with his **Summer Covers** EP.

Whilst applauding his decision to radically rework some familiar songs, I don't think The Buzzcocks' Ever Fallen In Love benefits from being slowed to a dirge-like pace, or The Beatles' I'm Only Sleeping is improved by travelling the other way, from dreamy to jaunty. Jazz takes on Joni Mitchell's Answer Me My Love and John Martyn' One



Izzy Bizu charms with her light and lilting style of jazzy acoustic soul

World are more successful and his version of Ryan Adams track Amy is pretty faithful.

French duo **The Limiñanas** use half-spoken, half-whispered Anglo-French vocals, Farisa organ and shimmering guitars for a summery Gallic take on psychedelic pop on their fourth album, **Malamore**.

It will appeal to those who enjoy the Gauloises flavoured French 60s pop of Serge Gainsbourg (El Beach) plus a twist of Ennio Morricone whimsy (El Sordo), whilst Dahlia Rouge and The Dead Are Walking recall The Velvet Underground.

Original 'riot grrl' Kathleen Hanna (ex-Bikini Kill) is on fine form with her latest band **The Julie Ruin** on **Hit Reset**, railing against sexism and abuse.

I Decide has swirling PIL style guitar and Let Me Go is almost Go-Gos-like with its punky power pop. In contrast to mostly anger-fuelled songs, closing song Calverton is a tender ballad, a tribute to her mother.

Essex punks **Asylums** deliver an energetic, hard riffing debut with songs that combine angry social comment with a dose of sarcasm on their album **Killer Brainwaves...** Southend's answer to Green Day?

Asylums play The Rainbow in Digbeth on October 28.

Protest singer **L.A. Salami** sounds like a poet first and a musician second on his debut album **Dancing With Bad Grammar**, urban folk based upon acoustic guitar with some rock and hip-hop flourishes. He calls his music 'postmodern blues' but it feels that more time was spent on honing the lyrics than the music.

**The Ramona Flowers** sound like they have arrived in a time machine from the mid-1980s, with influences including A-Ha, Duran Duran and Howard Jones. Single Dirty World, the opening track on second album **Part Time Spies**, has already picked up air-play on BBC Radio 2. Their sound is heavy on synthesizer and high vocals. The tracks Run Like Lola and My Weirdo also have hit potential.

The band, named after a character in Scott Pilgrim vs. The World, are in concert with White Lies at Birmingham's O2 Institute in Digbeth on November 29.

**Ward Thomas** are country music singing twins from Hampshire, Lizzy and Catherine, who impressed with their 2014 debut From Where We Stand, including catchy single Push For The Stride. The 22-year-olds wrote all 14 of the songs on their second album **Cartwheels**, which embraces pop as much as their beloved country. Highlights include Carry You Home, the title track and Guilty Flowers.

## Accessible version of perplexing classic Lear

**King Lear, Royal Shakespeare Theatre** SHAKESPEARE'S most bleak, profound and perplexing play is made accessible in Gregory Doran's moving production of **King Lear**, in which a God-like monarch is diminished by old age and foolish decisions.

Lear has been played by many famous actor-knights, and the latest Sir to play the King at the RSC is Antony Sher. He does not dominate a production which becomes a true ensemble work.

His pagan king makes a grand entrance lifted aloft in a perspex box but he shrinks as his power slips away, casting off his Cossack-like fur coat and finally reduced to his long johns. The box makes a blood-spattered return after the interval when his loyal ally Gloucester is blinded in a scene of literally eye-popping cruelty.

Lear can be seen as the story of a family destroyed by dementia as senile and cantankerous Lear, prone to unpredictable rages, alienates his daughters. Sher captures the king's confusion and exasperation.

Outstanding support comes from David Troughton as honest Gloucester. Paapa Essiedu, who recently played Hamlet, makes the jealous Edmund almost likeable. This young actor would make a deliciously wicked Richard III, the role that launched Sher's career 30 years ago.

King Lear continues at Stratford until October 15. It is screened live at selected cinemas on October 12.



Busted performing at Wolverhampton Racecourse on Saturday on their Pigs Can Fly tour

# Bostin' Busted are a sure bet for a good night out

**Busted, Wolverhampton Racecourse**

AN afternoon at the races followed by a gig, sounds like a great day out. And it's odds-on that the event will be a success when the nation's favourite comeback-making cheeky power pop band are determined to have a blast.

The regular punters must have been bemused by the T-shirted masses of young women in party mood... the queue for the ladies was a lot longer than that for the Tote.

There was a sense of anticipation as the reunited Busted – yes, that actually was Charlie Simpson stood between James Bourne and Matt Willis – took to the stage next to the racetrack.

Many thought that line-up would never happen again after the band split and Charlie went his own way 11 years ago. Then James and Matt merged with their rivals/pals McFly to form the stadium-filling McBusted. Hence the Pigs Can Fly Tour.

Opening with the aptly-entitled Coming Home, the trio boosted by drummer Cobus Potgieter and fourth guitarist Nick

## REVIEWS

By Leon Burakowski

Tsang hit top gear with Air Hostess and peppered their high-energy 80 minute set with chart-toppers including You Said No, Crashed The Wedding, Who's David and What I Go To School For.

There was wave of joyful nostalgia as women in their mid 20s turned back the clock to their teens and proved they were still word perfect for those songs from the Noughties. The highlight came with Sleeping With The Lights On and Charlie's moment to shine on Why, and no one minded that those songs about teen angst were coming from men now aged in their 30s.

Like the girl in their best known song and encore, Year 3000, they are looking (and sounding) pretty fine. Judging by the hints from James, a new album is on the way. The Wolverhampton crowd certainly thought that Busted were bostin'.

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Sitting pretty as models prepare to sparkle at this year's show

## COMPETITION

# Tune into all the latest in fashion trends

GET your diaries out, soon it will be that time of year again... yes, The Clothes Show.

In association with Alcatel it will return to the NEC Birmingham from December 2-6 with a new, exciting line-up of fashion, beauty, live music and industry experts. And with 25 free pairs of tickets up for grabs Chronicle readers have the chance to win a pair of tickets to the show on the first day.

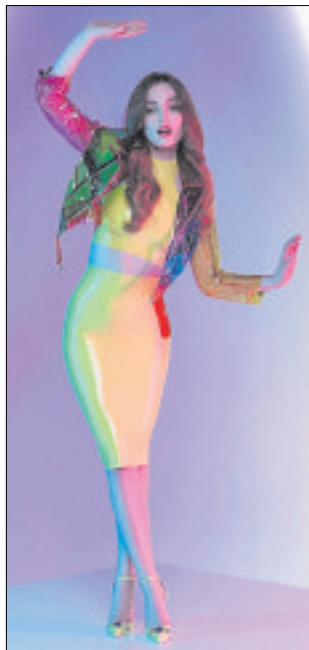
Whether you're looking to update your AW16 wardrobe, discover new music, find inspiration to kick start a career in fashion or meet industry experts, prepare to immerse yourself in Britain's largest fashion and beauty festival, where you'll find all of this and more.

Renowned for discovering talent across its 27-year history, The Clothes

Show is recognising and celebrating the talent of young people within the music industry. 2016 will see the launch of The Clothes Show Discoverers, a search to find a male and female artiste who will become the headline acts in the iconic Alcatel Fashion Theatre, in association with Capital FM.

Take a seat to watch the newly-named catwalk show, Rock the Runway, a fashion-meets-music performance with over 40 models and dancers alongside the newly-discovered music acts, in what is set to be the most breathtaking show yet.

Trend presentations from high street favourites, compiled by ITV's fashion presenter, Mark Hayes, will offer an insight into AW16 must haves, plus a host of well-known faces will appear in the theatre each day.



Catwalk promises to be best ever show

## HOW TO ENTER

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets simply answer this question.

**What is the name of the catwalk show?**

Send your answer on a postcard to Clothes Show Competition, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton. WV1 1ES. Please include contact number.

Closing date: Thursday September 15. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final

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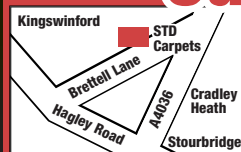
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# Horse owner's joy after dramatic rescue success



Jackie Stokes and daughter Amy, who rides Tess  
**FIREFIGHTERS battled to save a beloved Shire horse who would have died if they had been unable to get her back on her hooves.**

Around 10 members of West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service worked tirelessly on Saturday August 20 to help the injured animal as she lay helplessly on the ground at Sandwell Valley Riding Centre.

The difficult rescue at the stables on Wigmore Lane was broadcast live for 20 minutes through the service's Twitter feed and YouTube.

Their painstaking efforts succeeded, and the pet horse named Tess is now making a full recovery. Grateful owner Jackie Stokes said: "She wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for the fire service. If horses can't get up, then they are euthanised."

Mrs Stokes, 46, lives nearby in Stone Cross, West Bromwich, but due to Tess' large size at 17.2 hands, is un-



A specialist firefighting team attend to the injured horse



Finally, a tractor was used to help manoeuvre Tess onto her feet

able to keep her at home. The family only bought Tess, who they believe is aged around 16, back in March to be ridden by their very tall 15-year-old daughter Amy. Mrs Stokes added that the horse had been in poor health when they got her, but they had done all they could to nurse her back to health.

Unfortunately they discovered that she had sustained another injury.

"She came in with a cut on her leg. We contacted the vet whose advice was to make sure she had pain relief, and to keep her inside. But she lay down in

the stable and we couldn't get her up," explained Mrs Stokes.

A spokesman from West Midlands Fire Service said: "We received a call at 9.19am and sent a technical rescue team who are based in Wednesbury."

"On arrival they requested back-up and further equipment from our technical rescue team located in Bickenhill."

"It involved a female shire horse weighing approximately 800kg, unable to stand because of an injury to the right, rear hind leg." In the end they had to use a tractor to provide enough leverage to help her up.

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# Fresh appeal 13 years after Natalie vanished

**‘SOMEONE knows something, people do not just disappear’.**

With those words the half-sister of missing mother-of-one Natalie Putt has launched a fresh appeal for her whereabouts on the 13th anniversary of her going missing.

Natalie would now be aged 30. She vanished from her home in the Black Country leaving her baby son behind.

Potential sightings were made of her across the country from Bournemouth to Scotland, but despite a nationwide search and appeals on BBC TV's Crimewatch programme, to this day her devastated family are no clearer on what happened to her after she left her Lower Gornal home to visit local shops.

“She is the missing piece from her family – not a day goes by when I do not think and miss her, she was a special girl with her whole life ahead of her,” said half-sister Rebecca Coggins.

## Evidence

Mrs Coggins, who now lives in Nottingham, saw Natalie three weeks before she went missing. She has renewed an appeal for new clues.

She said: “It is now 13 years from when she disappeared. There may be an X, Y or Z who saw something at the time but did not say anything for whatever reason.

“They should now surely come forward and help us put together the pieces. Tell the police, please.

“People do not just disappear, especially Natalie. She was so popular, everyone says good things about her and how much they miss her. I will never give up.”

Natalie had given birth to her son, Rhys, only 11 weeks before she disappeared. The search for her included a pool near her home in Thornleigh.



Natalie Putt – the teenage mother vanished 13 years ago. She would be 30 now.

The last communication she made was a voicemail suggesting she was planning to visit friends in Tamworth.

Six years after she vanished the case featured on a missing person programme, which sparked reported sightings in Tipton, Cardiff, Bournemouth and Scotland dating back to

2005. The case went cold until three years ago when, after receiving fresh information, police dug up a paddock in Himley where Natalie kept horses.

But, again, the search proved fruitless. A West Midlands Police spokesman said: “No missing person case is ever closed.”

## Great British Days Out With

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### NOVEMBER

Date	Excursion	Adult 16+	Senior 60+	Child 3-15	Route Code
Wed 21st	The Royal Albert Hall GRAND TOUR, London NEW Includes Tour & Tea/Coffee/Danish Pastries	£34	£32	-	A
Wed 21st	London as you please ...	£17	£17	-	A
Thu 22nd	Castle Howard (York) NEW (Page 17) Nifty Grand Tours	£35	£34	-	A
Sun 25th	Tenby (Pembrokeshire) The Belgrave Hotel 5 DAYS 4 Nights HB *Back by popular demand* (Page 23)	ONLY £249pp			TBC
Tue 27th	David Austin Roses & Boundary Mills NEW Includes Garden Tour with Cream Tea	£28	£28	-	F
Wed 28th	Sister Act @ Milton Keynes Theatre *Matinee* (Page 18) The Broadway and West End Smash Hit Musical	£42	£40	-	H
Thu 29th	Nifty 50's Mystery Lunch Excursion *Menu* (Every Last Thursday of the month) POPULAR EXCURSION, SEE PAGE 12	£23	£23	-	G

### OCTOBER

Sat 1st	Wellesbourne Market & Stratford-upon-Avon 2 FOR £23	£13	£12	£10	C
Tue 11th	Bicester Shopping & Oxford (Page 13) 2 for Tuesday 2 FOR £26	£15	£14	-	C
Sat 15th	Blackpool Illuminations Don't miss the greatest free light show on earth!!	£20	£18	£16	H
Tue 18th	The Original Cotswolds Excursion 2 FOR £24 *Moreton & Bourton* (Third Tuesday of the month)	£14	£13	-	D
Sun 23rd	Irish House Party, Enniscorthy (Southern Ireland) 5 DAYS 4 Nights HB, Free Bar 6-9pm *Best Seller* (Page 24)	ONLY £299pp			TBC
Wed 26th	The Poppy Factory Tour Includes guided tour and a 2 course light lunch	£25	£25	-	B
Thu 27th	Nifty 50's Mystery Lunch Excursion *Carvery* (Every Last Thursday of the month) POPULAR EXCURSION, SEE PAGE 12	£23	£23	-	G
Sat 29th	Blackpool Illuminations Don't miss the greatest free light show on earth!	£20	£18	£16	H

### NOVEMBER

Tue 1st	The Poppy Factory Tour Includes guided tour and a 2 course light lunch	£25	£25	-	B
Tue 8th	National Memorial Arboretum & Lichfield 2 for Tuesday (Page 13) 2 FOR £26	£15	£14	-	D

### NOVEMBER

Date	Excursion	Adult 16+	Senior 60+	Child 3-15	Route Code
Fri 11th	Weston-Super-Mare Illuminated Carnival Spectacular - Not to be missed! 2 FOR £30	£17	£16	-	J
Sun 13th	Trafford Centre, Manchester Make a start on your Christmas Shopping before the crowds!	£18	£17	£16	C
Thu 17th	Thursford Christmas Spectacular Show 2 DAYS 1 Night B&B *Matinee Show* (Page 26) ONLY	£129pp			A
Fri 18th	Gloucester Quays Victorian Christmas Market	£16	£15	-	D
Sat 19th	Chester Christmas Market	£18	£17	£15	B
Sun 20th	Blenheim Palace at Christmas ... NEW Living Craft Fayre	£26	£25	£20	D
Thu 24th	Nifty 50's Mystery Lunch Excursion *Menu* (Every last Thursday of the month) POPULAR EXCURSION, SEE PAGE 12	£23	£23	-	G
Sat 26th	Longleat Festival of Light (at Longleat Safari Park) NEW Santa Train & Ice Rink additional charge applies	£40	£39	£35	B
Sat 26th	Ludlow Medieval Christmas Fayre NEW This Fayre is a superb pre-Christmas tonic! Don't miss it!	£17	£16	£14	E
Sat 26th	Bruges & Lille Christmas Markets (Page 25) 4 DAYS 3 Nights B&B - Hotel Europe 4*, Ostend	ONLY £209pp			TBC
Sun 27th	York ... as you please Christmas Shopping/St Nicholas Christmas Fayre	£20	£19	£16	A
Mon 28th	Bakewell Market & Chatsworth Hous Chatsworth dressed for Christmas ...	£27	£26	-	B

### DECEMBER

Fri 2nd	Lincoln Christmas Market	£20	£18	-	B
Fri 2nd	Thursford Christmas Spectacular Show 2 DAYS 1 Night B&B *Evening Show* (Page 26)	ONLY £129pp			A
Sat 3rd	Wellesbourne Market & Stratford-upon-Avon *Back by popular demand* 2 FOR £23	£13	£12	£10	D
Sat 3rd	Santa Safari (West Midlands Safari Park) One of the best Santa Experiences ever!	£21	£21	£23	E
Sun 4th	Bath Christmas Market Don't miss this award winning, beautiful Christmas market!	£19	£17	£15	B
Fri 9th	Tatton Park at Christmas (NT Members charge applies) Nifty National Trust Coach Club NEW	£26	£25	-	B

### DECEMBER

Date	Excursion	Adult 16+	Senior 60+	Child 3-15	Route Code
Sat 10th	Cruise Experience & Canterbury Christmas Market 2 days 1 Night 5 Course Dinner, Entertainment and B&B (Page 27)	ONLY £139pp			TBC
Mon 12th	Llandudno - St Kilda Hotel*** NEW 5 DAYS 4 Nights HB Turkey & Tinsel Break (Page 28)	ONLY £265pp			TBC
Thu 15th	Nifty 50's Mystery Christmas Lunch (Page 12)	£30	£30	-	TBC
Sun 18th	Warner Brothers Studio, London Harry Potter Studio Tour at Christmas (Page 10)	£50	£50	£45	C

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#### SPANISH FOR BEGINNERS

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### LANGUAGES

#### FRENCH

Inters: Mon. 19 Sept. 19.00-21.00. 11wks. £73.70#

Improvers: Tues. 27 Sept. 19.00-21.00. 10 wks. £67.00#

**NEW** Beg: Tues. 27 Sept. 18.00-19.00. 10 wks. £36.00#

Advanced: Thurs 22 Sept. 19.00-21.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

#### ITALIAN

Cont Beg: Mon 19 Sept 14.30-16.00. 11 wks. £59.40#

Improvers: Mon 19 Sept 12.00-14.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

**NEW** Beg: Mon 26 Sept 09.30-11.30. 10 wks. £67.00#

#### SPANISH

Inters: Thurs 22 Sept. 13.30-15.30. 11 wks. £73.70#

**NEW** Beg: Wed 28 Sept. 11.30-13.00. 10 wks. £54.00#

Improvers: Wed 28 Sept. 14.00-15.30. 10 wks. £54.00#

#### PORTUGUESE

Beginners Mon 26 Sept. 19.00-21.00. 10 wks. £67.00#

Improvers Tue 20 Sept. 12.00-14.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

**BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE \*\*NEW\*\***

Introduction: Thurs 22 Sept. 19.00-21.00. 4 wks. £28.80#

**BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE \*\*NEW\*\***

Introduction: Thurs 3 Nov. 19.00-21.00. 4 wks. £28.80#

### ARTS AND CRAFTS

#### PAINTING AND DRAWING

suitable for all levels

Tues 20 Sept. 19.00 - 21.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

Wed 21 Sept. 9.30 - 11.30. 11 wks. £73.70#

Thurs 22 Sept. 10.00-12.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

Thurs 22 Sept. 13.30- 15.30. 11 wks. £73.70#

#### DRAWING FOR BEGINNERS

Mon 26 Sept 14.30-16.30. 3 wks. £27.90#

#### CREATIVE WRITING

Mon 19 Sept. 19.00-21.00. 5 wks. £36.00#

Mon 31 Oct. 19.00-21.00. 5 wks. £36.00#

#### PHOTOGRAPHY FOR BEGINNERS

Thurs 22 Sept. 19.00-20.30. 10 wks. £54.00#

#### LEARN TO SCULPT IN STONE

Tues 20 Sept. 19.00 - 21.00. 5 wks. £42.00#

### HANDICRAFTS

#### HOW TO USE A SEWING MACHINE

Mon 19 Sept. 19.00-21.00 3 wk. £27.90#

#### UPHOLSTERY SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS

Tues 20 Sept. 12.00-14.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

#### DRESSMAKING SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS

Tues 20 Sept. 09.30-11.30. 11 wks. £73.70#

#### PATCHWORK SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS

Wed 21 Sept. 14.30-16.30 11 wks. £73.70#

#### UPHOLSTERY & SOFT FURNISHINGS

Wed 21 Sept. 12.00-14.00. 11 wks. £73.70#

#### SEWING MADE SIMPLE SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS

Thurs 22 Sept. 18.00-20.00 11 wks. £73.70#

#### PATCHWORK FOR BEGINNERS

Mon 10 Oct. 19.00-21.00 5 wks. £36.00#

#### MACHINE EMBROIDERY FOR BEGINNERS

Mon 21 Nov. 19.00-21.00 3 wks. £27.90#

### HEALTH AND FITNESS

#### PILATES

Improvers: Tues 20 Sept. 19.00-20.00. 11 wks. £39.60

Improvers: Wed 14 Sept. 18.30-19.30. 12 wks. £43.20

Improvers: Thurs 15 Sept. 19.05-20.05. 12 wks. £43.20

Improvers: Thurs 15 Sept. 20.10-21.10. 12 wks. £43.20

Beginners @ The Oakfield Centre:

Fri 16 Sept. 10.00-11.00. 12 wks. £48.00#

#### FITNESS YOGA

Tues 20 Sept. 20.05-21.05. 11 wks. £39.60

Thurs 22 Sept. 18.00-19.00. 11 wks. £39.60#

#### ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS:

Beginners: Mon. 19 Sept 19.00-19.45. 11 wks. £34.65#

Improvers: Mon. 19 Sept 19.45-20.30. 11 wks. £34.65#

Advanced: Mon. 19 Sept 20.30-21.15. 11 wks. £34.65#

### MUSIC

#### PLAY THE GUITAR

Intermediates: Mon. 19 Sept. 19.00-21.00 11 wks. £73.70#

Beginners: Tues. 27 Sept. 19.00-20.30 10 wks. £54.00#

Improvers: Thurs. 22 Sept. 19.00-20.30 11 wks. £59.40#

#### PLAY THE GUITAR FOR CHILDREN (8YRS+)

Beginners L1 Mon 12 Sept 16.45-17.45 6 wks. £54.90

Beginners L2 Mon 12 Sept 17.45-18.45 6 wks. £54.90

Beginners L1 Mon 31 Oct 16.45-17.45 6 wks. £54.90

Beginners L2 Mon 31 Oct 17.45-18.45 6 wks. £54.90

Improvers Thurs 15 Sept. 17.45-18.45 6 wks. £54.90

Improvers Thurs 3 Nov 17.45-18.45 6 wks. £54.90

L1 = Level 1 L2 = Level 2

### DANCE

#### DANCE FIT

Tues 27 Sept. 18.00-19.00 10 wks. £36.00#

Tues 20 Sept. 19.10-20.10 12 wks. £43.20#

#### BALLROOM & LATIN AMERICAN DANCING

Beginners Mon 19 Sept 18.45-19.45 11 wks. £40.30

Imp/Inter Mon 19 Sept 19.45-21.00 11 wks. £50.35

### BASIC COMPUTER COURSES

#### COMPUTING : THE BASICS

Tues 13 Sept. 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £21.60#

Tues 1 Nov. 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £21.60#

#### COMPUTING SKILLS: INTERNET+ E MAIL

Tues 4 Oct. 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £21.60#

Tues 22 Nov. 14.30-16.30 3 wks. £21.60#

### COMPUTER COURSES

(Basic computer and internet skills are required)

#### PHOTOSHOP 1

Mon 19 Sept. 9.30-11.30 5 wks. £36.00#

#### PHOTOSHOP 2

Mon 31 Oct. 9.30-11.30 6 wks. £43.20#

#### CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE

Tues 20 Sept. 19.00-21.00 5 wks. £36.00#

#### BUYING AND SELLING ON E-BAY

Tues 1 Nov. 19.00-21.00 4 wks. £28.80#

Tues 15 Nov. 9.30-11.30. 4 wks. £28.80#

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO IPAD

Tues 13 Sept. 09.30-11.30 1 wk. £7.20#

Tues 11 Oct. 09.30-11.30 1 wk. £7.20#

#### MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR IPAD

Tues 20 Sept. 09.30-11.30 3 wks. £21.60#

Tues 15 Nov. 09.30-11.30 3 wks. £21.60#

#### START YOUR OWN BUSINESS \*\*NEW\*\*

Mon 19 Sept. 19.00-21.00 4 wks. £28.80#

#### INTRO TO MANUAL BOOK KEEPING \*\*NEW\*\*

Mon 17 Oct. 19.00-21.00 8 wks. £57.60#

### LEARNING4LIFE SWIM SCHOOL

#### Spaces Available for September

Term Dates: Monday 12 Sept. to Sunday 11 Dec 2016 **Costs: 12 wks**

First Steps (ages 3 1/2), Pre Beginners (min age 4), Beginners, Improvers £52.80. Intermediates 1, 2 and 3 £45.60. Rookie Lifesaving (min age 8), Survive & Save (min age 11 1/2) £57.00

**Our commitment to you:** Quality, experienced teachers Competitive prices New Parents Home Portal allowing parents to view children's progress online

Small class sizes Recently refurbished Swimming pool Excellent achievement and retention levels Extensive free parking

For more information on availability please call 01384 816043

Funded by

Skills  
Funding  
Agency



**Reduced Fees:** Where you see this # sign the course is supported by The Skills Funding Agency. If you are in receipt of certain benefits fees are reduced to 25%. Price in brackets () includes additional costs.

**Course Dates:** Courses are suspended on 24th to 30th October unless stated otherwise

**This programme is subject to change:** particularly if we are unable to recruit minimum class numbers. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that this programme and the pricing is accurate at the time of publication, changes and errors may occur. We reserve the right to amend details as required.

**PLEASE NOTE:** A 1.2% charge will be added to all credit card payments processed through Dudley MBC. Debit card payments remain unchanged.

Use your Smartphone to read our QR (quick response) code. It will take you to our website.

### FRIDAY WORKSHOPS

#### HOW TO ALTER CLOTHES TO FIT

Fri 16 Sept. 9.30-12.30. 1 wk. £20.55

#### KEEP SAFE ONLINE

Fri 30 Sept. 09.30-11.30. 1 wk. £7.20

Fri 21 Oct. 09.30-11.30. 1 wk. £7.20

### INTENSIVE COURSES

#### HOW TO USE A SEWING MACHINE

Mon 19 Sept. 19.00-21.00 3 wk. £27.90#

Fri 7 Oct. 09.30-12.30. 2 wks. £27.90#

#### HOW TO USE AN OVERLOCKER

Fri 25 Nov. 09.30-12.30. 2 wks. £27.90#

#### CREATE YOUR OWN BAG

Fri 11 Nov. 12.30-14.30. 3 wks. £21.60#

### FIRST AID

#### EMERGENCY FIRST AID

Fri 23 Sept. 9.00-12.00. 2 wks. £38.40

Fri 11 Nov. 9.00-12.00. 2 wks. £38.40

#### PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID.

Fri 21 Oct. 9.00-13.00 1/2 day. £25.60

Fri 9 Dec. 9.00-13.00 1/2 day. £25.60

### PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### MINDFULNESS

Mon 31 Oct. 19.30-21.00. 4 wks. £27.90#

### QUALIFICATIONS

#### BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE LEVEL 1 \*\*NEW\*\*

Thurs 12 Jan 17. 19.00-21.00. 11 wks.

**Price to be confirmed. Please register your interest.**

#### DUDLEY MBC INDUCTION TRAINING FOR POOLSIDE ASSISTANTS

Mon 5 Sept. 09.00-12.00. 3hrs. £19.20

OR Tues 3 Jan 17 09.00-12.00. 3hrs. £19.20

#### LEVEL 2 AWARD IN FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING

Tue 4 Oct. 17.30-21.00. 2 wks. £48.00

#### NATIONAL POOL LIFEGUARD

Mon-Sat 20-25 Feb 17 08.30-17.00 £220.00

Mon-Sat 10-15 Apr 17 08.30-17.00. £220.00

(Includes course manual and assessment fee)

**Please check our website for course requirements**

### FAMILY LEARNING

The price includes a place for one adult (aged over 19) and a child.

#### TEACH YOUR CHILD TO SWIM

Children 18 mths-4yrs

Sat 17 Sept. 09.00-09.30. 12 wks. £30.00#

Sun 18 Sept. 13.30-14.15. 12 wks. £45.00#

Fri 30 Sept. 10.50-11.35. 10 wks. £37.50#

#### SEW TOGETHER

Thurs 22 Sept. 16.00-17.30. 5 wks. £22.50#

### COMMUNITY SESSIONS

#### Weekly pay as you go sessions

**ADULT SWIMMING:** Mon. 12.30-13.15 £3.50

Thurs. 19.00-20.00. £3.50

**AQUAFIT:** Wed. 12.30-13.15, Fri. 12.30-13.15. £3.50.

Wed. 19.00-20.00, Sun. 9.00-10.00. £4.50

**FITNESS SWIM:** Mon. 18.00-18.45. £3.00

for 10-19 yrs olds





# Payslip of Albion's Jesse shows a different era

A CENTURY-OLD payslip showing the modest earnings of a West Bromwich Albion player has sold at auction for £190.

The document showed that England international Jesse Pennington picked up just £4 a week in 1910.

The sum was equivalent to £429 in today's money – a little different to what the likes of Wayne Rooney and other Premier League stars are paid now.

Even Albion's players are paid tens of thousands of pounds a week – a figure which will likely climb even further following the club's recent Chinese takeover.

When it was put up for auction, the lot was given an estimate of £120 to £150 which it exceeded.

Emma Carberry, from Hansons Auctioneers, said there was serious interest in the items online.

## Competition

She said: "The winning bid was placed by an internet bidder. There were a few people bidding in the room and a lot of competition on the internet. It was really exciting and it's nice to know it got above its estimate."

Pennington, a full-back, played for the Baggies for 455 times from 1903 to 1922, also making 25 appearances for England.

The 'payers agreement' was discovered in the drawer of a West Midlands home by Charles Hanson, manager of Hansons Auctioneers, near Derby.

Pennington was involved in a dispute with the club at the time and had briefly joined Kidderminster Harriers.

The document shows the defender registering for the Harriers, after he left Albion.

Pennington, nicknamed 'Peerless', only had a short stint at Harriers,



The player in his Albion kit



An old Albion programme



Jesse Pennington's receipt of registration for the season 1910-11

however. He played just one game for the team, before resolving his dispute with Albion and returning to the club.

When the payslip was signed, Pennington was an England international.

Footballers' wages have spiralled in the century since. Wayne Rooney of Manchester United earns £260,000

a week, which is closely followed by Sergio Agüero of Manchester City who earns £240,000 a week.

Alongside the payslip and other items belonging to Pennington that was discovered was an Albion News and Official Programme from 26 August 1922.



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Statutory Inspection of Methodist and Anglican Schools, March 2015  
**OUTSTANDING**



"Throughout the school, teachers have consistently high expectations and good subject knowledge"



"The school promotes very well the spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of the curriculum."



"In English, the proportion on track to make expected progress is above that found nationally."



The Governors, staff and students at St Michael's Church of England High School would like to invite you to attend

**OPEN EVENING: Wednesday 21 September 2016**  
5.30pm - 8.30pm

**OPEN DAY: Thursday 22 September 2016**  
9.30am - 2.30pm

St Michael's Church of England High School  
Rowley Learning Campus | Curral Road | Rowley Regis  
West Midlands | B65 9AN

Telephone: 0121 561 6881

Email: [headteacher@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk)  
[www.st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk](http://www.st-michaels.sandwell.sch.uk)



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### OPEN DAYS:

Tuesday 20th September 2016  
Wednesday 21st September 2016  
Thursday 22nd September 2016

9.00am: arrival (please be prompt)  
9.05am: meet the Head  
9.15am - 10.15am: tour of the school

### OPEN EVENING:

Thursday 15th September 2016  
7.00pm - 9.00pm

(all welcome, no appointments required)

Presentation by the Headteacher at 7.00pm and 8.00pm  
Tours of the school with senior staff or pupils available on request

Headteacher - D J Meredith BEd(Hons), NPQH  
Oldacre Road, Oldbury, West Midlands B68 0RG

T: 0121 421 7979 F: 0121 421 5718 [www.perryfieldshigh.sandwell.sch.uk](http://www.perryfieldshigh.sandwell.sch.uk)



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Our open events are the perfect opportunity to experience the Forge family first hand. You can meet the Principal, enjoy a tour of the academy, take part in activities and, most importantly, meet our students.

### Open day events

Thursday 22nd September 6pm-8.30pm

Saturday 24th September 9am-12pm

For more information call 01384 566598  
or visit [www.ormistonforgeacademy.co.uk](http://www.ormistonforgeacademy.co.uk)

f /ormistonforgeacademy @ormiston\_forge





# £31m new music college due by 2018

A £31 MILLION music college is set to open its doors in 2018, council chiefs have confirmed.

The Brierley Hill music institute will cater for more than 700 students and has been backed by Manchester Metropolitan University.

Dudley Council is contributing £25,000 funding in an effort to make sure the institute can open in two years time. Council chiefs said it would help rejuvenate The Waterfront area and labelled it 'a world class higher education' facility.

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, economic development boss, said: "We're very excited by the scheme as we believe it offers a big positive for the region. There's a serious effort being made to get this through and that's why the local authority is willing to contribute this £25,000 grant funding. If this happens – and I'm confident that it will – then it will be a big plus for the area."



**Fit fundraisers – the staff who took part in the challenge at West Midlands Hospital in Halesowen**

# Hospital staff take on workout challenge

WEST Midlands Hospital staff teamed up to support a national health and wellbeing drive.

Energetic employees organised a programme of activities which tied in with the 'workout at work' campaign, co-ordinated by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy.

From August 15 to 25, staff engaged in activities at the Colman Hill hospital site in Halesowen, including Pilates classes.

Prizes were up for grabs for employees who clocked up the most steps. Hospital staff covered a combined total of 550 miles over a two-week period.

Tracey Tipton, ward clerk, was the winner of the first week's fitness challenge, while the hospital catering team won a team prize for the number of steps they covered.

The fortnight of activities culminated with a staff sports day event, which took place on the hospital site. West Midlands Hospital, part of the Ramsay Health Care group, is one of the leading private hospitals in the West Midlands.

Helen Hunt, physiotherapy manager at West Midlands Hospital, said: "We were very pleased to support the Workout at Work initiative and it was great to see staff at the hospital getting involved in different activities throughout the campaign."

# Cannabis tunnels caretaker locked up

**THE caretaker of the historic Drakelow Tunnels, near Kinver, has been jailed for allowing the site to be used as a 'cannabis factory.**

Cannabis plants with a retail value of £71,500 were seized by police following a raid on the former nuclear bunker in November 2013..

Wayne Robinson had managed the site since the 1990s but denied any knowledge that some of the tunnels were being used to cultivate the Class B drug. But earlier this year a jury found him guilty of permitting the premises to be used for the production of cannabis and at Worcester Crown Court last week he was jailed for 14 months.



**Jailed – Wayne Robinson**

"There was a substantial number of plants recovered by police with a retail value

by police with a retail value estimated around £71,000 and your involvement was to allow the owners of the cannabis factory to use part of the tunnels for their operation."

## Lamps

Police found that electricity bypassed the metre so the supplier would not know.

The 'main 'growing room' contained 86 high-power lamps on timers, fans and eight water storage tanks.

During this year's trial, a

bis at the site.

After sentencing, Detective Inspector John Cashion of West Mercia Police, said: 'The sentencing of these two men confirms a lengthy and complex investigation into the large-scale cultivation of cannabis at one of Britain's historic locations.'

"It was clear that this was a sophisticated set-up, involving high-powered lamps and timers in order to provide an ideal artificial environment for the growth of cannabis for commercial purposes. It would have cost several thousand pounds to buy the equipment."

"I hope the sentences

Robinson, aged 48, of Marlpool Lane, Kidderminster, was also handed nine and sixth month jail terms for possessing a shotgun and

## Fuel station expands

A FUEL station in Stourbridge is to expand after getting the green light.

Proposals for the BP garage in Hagley Road, Oldswinford, have been given the go-ahead by Dudley Council. The existing building will be replaced by a new structure which will have more retail space. BP promised to build a two-metre high boundary wall to tackle noise issues.

AKAI BRAUN BOSCH Breville CARMEN  dyson Elgento  itek KENWOOD



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**£45**



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Halesowen Chronicle

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FROM **£50**  
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**PRESSURE COOKER**  
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**STEAM GENERATOR IRONS**  
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**£75**





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# fast the ticket

## Caught in the act

Sisters on tour – Page 19



**NATIVE MONSTER**  
Entertainment Unleashed

**Being earnest**

See Page 19

For full listings see **Express & Star** every Friday

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19 NOV • KINKY BOOTS • CHARLIE & CHOC FACTORY  
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3 DEC • BILLY ELLIOT IN MANCHESTER

### CHRISTMAS MARKET WEEKENDS



2 DAYS  
**£59.95**

Shop for  
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Christmas  
present!  
Overnight  
half board

• LIVERPOOL & MANCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET  
12, 19, 26 NOV Xmas party night + most drinks 2 for 1 6-9pm **£69.95**  
• EXETER & BATH CHRISTMAS MARKETS  
26 NOV, 3, 10 DEC Xmas party night in Torquay Hotel **£69.95**  
• CHATSWORTH AT CHRISTMAS & CHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET  
19, 26 NOV, 10 DEC Admission to Chatsworth House included! **£89.95**  
• BRONTE STEAM & MANCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET  
12, 19 NOV Steam train ride included **£79.95**  
• BURY MARKET, STEAM & MANCHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET  
12, 19, 26 NOV East Lancs steam train ride included **£79.95**  
Lots more available - including Tribute Weekends and Christmas Market Day Trips CALL FOR BROCHURE!

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2 DAYS FROM **£69.95**

OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD  
• Visit to Covent Garden at Christmas plus the stunning festive event & Christmas market at Hyde Park  
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Tribute Act  
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20 NOV Grand Hotel, Llandudno • ROD STEWART  
• CHESTER & CHATSWORTH CHRISTMAS MARKET  
20 NOV Daresbury Hotel • LIONEL RITCHIE  
• CHESTER & MAMLOCK VICTORIAN XMAS MARKET  
4 DEC Daresbury Hotel • FREDDIE MERCURY  
• LIVERPOOL & CHESTER CHRISTMAS MARKET  
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3 day breaks also available featuring Elvis, Elton John, Sinatra, Kylie, Tom Jones, Michael Buble, Abba, Rod Stewart, Motown - CALL FOR BROCHURE

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TORQUAY  
19, 26 Sep  
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19, 26 Sep, 3, 10, 24 Oct,  
21 Nov, 5 Dec

EASTBOURNE  
3, 10, 24 Oct, 21 Nov  
5 Dec

FOLKESTONE  
& BELGIUM  
19, 26 Sep, 24 Oct,  
21 Nov, 5 Dec

LLANDUDNO  
19 Sep, 24 Oct,  
28 Nov, 5 Dec

### BEAMISH OPEN AIR MUSEUM & WHITBY

2 DAYS **£89.95**

OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD  
• Admission included plus free time in Whitby  
SAT 24 SEP, 29 OCT

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• Admission included to Eden Project  
4 DAYS FRI 23 SEP, 21 OCT  
5 DAYS MON 19 SEP, 3, 24 OCT

### LIVERPOOL BEATLES TOUR MERSEY CRUISE & CHESTER

2 DAYS **£79.95**

OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD  
• Includes River Explorer Cruise & Beatles Tour  
SAT 24 SEP, 15, 29 OCT

### WARNER STUDIO TOUR Making of Harry Potter

2 DAYS **£119.95**

OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD  
• Admission included plus visits to Science & Natural History Museums  
SAT 24 SEP, 8 OCT, 12, 19, 26 NOV, 3, 10, 17 DEC

### ISLANDS AT CHESTER ZOO & LLANGOLLEN CRUISE

2 DAYS **£99.95**

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• Includes admission to Chester Zoo & Fast-Track entry to The Islands, plus a horse drawn canal boat cruise in Llangollen  
SAT 17 SEP, 29 OCT

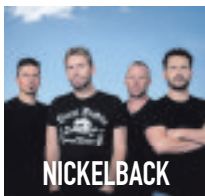
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**NICKELBACK**

● 14 Oct 2016



● 19 Oct 2016



● 18 - 20 Nov 2016



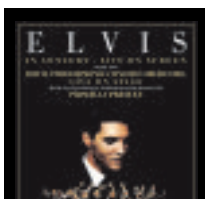
● 26 &amp; 27 Nov 2016



● 1 - 5 Mar 2016



● 12 Oct 2016



● 22 Nov 2016



● 26 Oct 2016



● 21 Dec 2016

● GENTINGARENA.CO.UK ● BARCLAYCARDARENA.CO.UK (theticketfactory.com)



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## Aggers & Tuffers



Thursday, 7.30pm  
**Symphony Hall, B'ham**  
Cricketer legend Phil Tuffnell (pictured) and his Test Match Special colleague Jonathan Agnew get together for more hilarious anecdotes and some cricket analysis.  
Visit [www.thsh.co.uk](http://www.thsh.co.uk)

## Bowie Experience



Thursday, 7.30pm  
**Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton**  
Laurence is one of the leading tribute performers to David Bowie, the late great rock chameleon, covering all the eras from Space Oddity to Blackstar for Bowie's adoring fans.  
Visit [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk)

## Chitty Chitty Bang Bang



Until September 18, various  
**Birmingham Hippodrome**  
The colourful family musical based on Ian Fleming's story about an amazing automobile stars Lee Mead (pictured), Carrie Hope Fletcher, Claire Sweeney and Phill Jupitus.  
[www.birminghamhippodrome.com](http://www.birminghamhippodrome.com)

## Mitch Malloy



Sunday, 8pm  
**Robin 2, Bilston**  
Singer-songwriter and producer who almost replaced Sammy Hagar in Van Halen and had a hit in the US with Anything At All. Support from Kaato and Dudley's Souley Mourning.  
Visit [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk)

## CLUBBING

**Propaganda**  
Tonight,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB.  
Call 0121 622 8250

**BPM | PRO 2016 – DJ & Studio Event**  
Sun - Tue,  
Genting Arena,  
Birmingham,  
B40 1NT.  
Call 0121 780 4141

## ROCK & METAL

**Money For Nothing**  
Tonight, £15  
Theatre on the Steps,  
Bridgnorth,  
WV16 4BD.  
Call 01746 766477

**Quadrophonia – The Who Tribute**  
Tonight, £7 - £8  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

**Purple-Zeppelin**  
Tonight, £17.50 - £18.50  
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,  
TF2 6EP.  
Call 01952 382382

**QE2 – The very best of Queen**  
Tomorrow, £8 - £10  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

**The Moody Blues' John Lodge**  
Tomorrow,  
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.  
Call 01543 412121

**An Evening with 'Elvis' starring Kevin Paul**  
Tomorrow,  
Earlwood Village Hall,  
Solihull, B94 6BZ.  
Call 01564 703239

**Elvana – The World's Finest Elvis Fronted Tribute to Nirvana**  
Tomorrow,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB.  
Call 0121 622 8250

**Mercury – Queen tribute**  
Tomorrow, £12  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

**The Beach Boys Band**  
Sun, £7 - £8  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

**Mitch Malloy**  
Sun,  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**Moo Music Sheldon**  
Mon, Free  
The Wheatshaf (Toby Carvery),  
Sheldon,  
Birmingham,  
B26 3EH.  
Call 0121 742 6201

**Stevie Nimmo Trio**  
Thu, £12.50 - £14.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston,  
WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

## POP

**Lucie Silvas**  
Tonight,  
The Institute,  
Digbeth,  
Birmingham,  
B5 6DY.  
Call 0121 643 0428

**Kick Up The 80's**  
Tomorrow, £8.50 - £9.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

**ABBA – Swede Dreams**  
Tomorrow, £8  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge,  
DY8 1JN.  
Call 01384 397177 or 07986 577661

**Atomic Blondie**  
Tomorrow, £11 - £13  
Theatre on the Steps, Bridgnorth,  
WV16 4BD.  
Call 01746 766477

**Ray Quinn – No Man's Land Tour 2016**  
Wed, £17.50 - £18.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.  
Call 01902 401211

## JAZZ, SOUL, FUNK, MOTOWN & REGGAE

**The Official Receivers**  
Tomorrow, £10  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.  
Call 01527 577330

**Jazz Tuesdays**  
Tue,  
The Spotted Dog, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B12 0NH.  
Call 0121 772 3822

**The Magic of Motown**  
Thu, £25.20 - £28.56  
Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.  
Call 01684 892277

## CLASSICAL

**Schola Cantorum of Oxford**  
Tue,  
St Mary's Church, Moseley,  
Birmingham, B13 8HW.  
Call 0121 449 2243

**Gospel Central**  
Wed,  
The Jam House, Birmingham,  
B3 1QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

## FOLK, COUNTRY & ACOUSTIC

**Dan Walsh and John Dowling duo – album release**  
Tue,  
Kitchen Garden Cafe,  
Birmingham,  
B14 7SA.  
Call 0121 443 4725

## THEATRE

**Rock of Ages**  
Tonight - tomorrow, £12.50 - £18.50  
Theatre Severn,  
Shrewsbury,  
SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

**That'll Be The Day**  
Tue,  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 42 92 12

**Bowie Experience**  
Thu,  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 42 92 12

**The Importance Of Being Earnest**  
Tonight - Thu,  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
B1 2EP.  
Call 0121 236 4455

**Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**  
Tonight - Thu,  
Birmingham Hippodrome,  
B5 4TB.  
Call 0844 338 5000

**Autin DT: A Positive Life**  
Tomorrow,  
MAC, Birmingham,  
B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

**Bazaar and Rummage**  
Mon - Thu, £10 - £16  
Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.  
Call 01684 892277

**CATS**  
Tonight - tomorrow,  
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,  
ST1 1AP.  
Call 0844 871 7649

**The Simon and Garfunkel Story**  
Tonight,  
Malvern Theatres, WR14 3HB.  
Call 01684 892277

**A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
Tomorrow - Sun, Tue, Thu, £13 - £15  
Ludlow Assembly Rooms, SY8 1AZ.  
Call 01584 878141

**The Lady In The Van**  
Tomorrow - Thu,  
The Crescent Theatre,  
Brindleyplace, Birmingham,  
B16 8AE.  
Call 0121 643 5858

**Sister Act**  
Mon - Thu,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**The Vicar of Dibley**  
Today - Thu,  
Hall Green Little Theatre,  
Birmingham, B27 7RY.  
Call 0121 707 1874

**One Show More**  
Today - Thu, £14 - £16  
Fenton Manor Sports Complex,  
Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 2RR.  
Call 01782 233222

## MISC. EVENTS

**American Style Wrestling**  
Sunday, £5  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge,  
DY8 1JN.  
Call 01384 397177 or 07986 577661

**Kings Heath Street Festival**  
Sun, 1am - 8pm  
Birmingham, B14 7SR.  
See [www.facebook.com/events/754820424621451/](http://www.facebook.com/events/754820424621451/)

**Aggers & Tuffers**  
Thu, 7.30pm  
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,  
B1 2EA.  
Call 0121 780 3333

## COMEDY

**Roman vs Fousey**  
Tonight,  
O2 Academy Birmingham,  
B1 1DB.  
Call 0121 622 8250

**Upfront Comedy**  
Sun,  
MAC, Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

**SEVERN JESTERS #47**  
Sun, £9 - £10  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,  
SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

**JUNIOR JESTERS #5**  
Sun, £7.50 - £25  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,  
SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

**Licensed to Rhyme**  
Mon, £12  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.  
Call 01527 577330

**Jonathan Pie – Live!**  
Wed,  
The Slade Rooms,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.  
Call 0870 320 7000

**Gary Delaney**  
Thu, £14  
The Slade Rooms,  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.  
Call 0870 320 7000

## ARTS & CULTURE

**Mitra Saboury: Pulling Walls**  
Today - Thu,  
Grand Union, Minerva Works,  
Birmingham, B5 5RS.  
Call 0121 643 9079

**YAY16: Year of Arts & Young People**  
Today - Thu,  
Various, Birmingham  
See <https://yay16.wordpress.com>

**Spotlight Tour**  
Today, Free  
Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace,  
Birmingham, B1 2HS1.  
Call 0121 248 0708

**Caroline Jariwala – Mosaics**  
Today - tomorrow,  
Winterbourne House and Garden,  
University of Birmingham,  
B15 2TT.  
Call 0121 414 3003

**The Birmingham Whisky Club Presents: Whisky Women**  
Tonight,  
The Wellington, Birmingham,  
B2 5SN.  
Call 0121 200 3115

**Heritage Open Days: Collection Centre Tours**  
Today - tomorrow,  
Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster,  
DY11 7XZ.  
Call 01299 251890

**Summer Nights Film Festival: The Great Gatsby**  
Tonight,  
Attingham Park, Shrewsbury,  
SY4 4TW.  
Call 01743 708123

**Maggie Humphry ARBSA**  
Tomorrow,  
RBSA Gallery, Birmingham,  
B3 1SA4.  
Call 0121 236 4353

**Birmingham Wine Tasting Experience Day 'Vine to Wine' with Wine Unearthed**  
Tomorrow,  
Bank Restaurant & Bar,  
Brindleyplace, Birmingham,  
B1 2JB.  
Call 0121 633 4466

**Explore the Store: Go behind the scenes at Birmingham Museums Collections Centre**  
Tomorrow,  
Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery, B3 3DH.  
Call 0121 303 1966

**BMI Open Day**  
Tomorrow,  
The Birmingham & Midland Institute, B3 3BS.  
Call 0121 236 3591

**Tolkien Tour with Two Towers Brewery**  
Tomorrow,  
Gunmakers Arms pub,  
Birmingham, B4 6HG.  
Call 0121 439 7253

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star



# Cathy is Wilde about new role

IT'S almost 20 years since Cathy Tyson last performed in Birmingham.

Since then the actress, best known for her TV work in *Band of Gold* and *Emmerdale*, has changed almost as much as the second city.

Tyson, who started out at Liverpool's Everyman Theatre, has gone back to school to study for a degree and starred in a series of stage roles.

She'll be back in Birmingham for a new production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from tomorrow (Friday) to 24. It is being directed by Nikolai Foster and Tyson will play the iconic Lady Bracknell.

The actress has a string of theatre credits to her name, she has played Ophelia and Cleopatra but the formidable Lady Bracknell could be the most challenging yet.

She also received BAFTA and Golden Globe nominations for her role in the film *Mona Lisa*, in which she co-starred with Bob Hoskins and which this year celebrates 30 years since release.

## Personal

Cathy said of her latest big role: "Lady Bracknell is so well-known. People have a really personal view on Lady Bracknell. It's lovely because it's theirs as well."

"I'm very excited with Nikolai being the director. It can be quite a pressure to play a well-known character because the play is so well known."

"You feel you have to step into the shoes of people who've done it before."



Band of Gold actress Cathy Tyson makes her comedy debut in an iconic role

But I think I've freed myself from the shackles of past productions.

"I've made a decision to make it truthful and funny. I've not done a comedy before so it's a new journey. "Theatre feels like home. It's always my second home."

Wilde's play explodes with his

trademark sharp wit, exposing the hypocrisies of Victorian society

Tyson is looking forward to taking the show on the road and to Birmingham. It will provide her with a trip down memory lane after she appeared in *The Merchant of Venice* alongside Don Warrington at Birmingham Rep.



*'This is a real comedy acting role for her'*

## Alex will be A-maz-ing!

STRICTLY Come Dancing judge Craig Revel Horwood promises his revamped revival of *Sister Act The Musical* is going to be A-maz-ing. Starring Alexandra Burke in disguise as a nun, the touring production has been winning acclaim.

It is a reinvention of the Broadway show based on the Whoopi Goldberg movie about a nightclub singer hiding from gangsters in a convent.

"Alex will be playing instruments too - the piano and drums. Everyone in my shows has to muck in," revealed Craig, back on screens this week as *Strictly*'s waspish judge. His X Factor winning leading lady, who showed her showbiz prowess in hit show *The Bodyguard* in London and on tour, gets a score of 10 out of 10 from Craig.

The choreographer-director said: "This is a real comedy acting role for her, which she has never done. Alexandra is naturally really funny and she has the gift of timing, which you simply can't teach. She is really instinctive. It is fast American comedy and it needs to be bang, bang, bang. She is a perfectionist."

"This is not the movie on-stage", said Craig, "the movie was not theatrical at all. The songs are the same as the Broadway production and we are just reinventing it a little bit."

Craig, who in recent years revived *Chess* and *Fiddler On The Roof*, explained: "All the actors play the music as well, and they are all of a brilliant standard."

*Sister Act The Musical* is at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Monday to Saturday, September 17, then at Wolverhampton Grand from February 27 to March 4.

## Singer-songwriters are joining forces

WOLVERHAMPTON singer-songwriter Dan Whitehouse is teaming up with label mate Boo Hewardine, formerly of *The Bible*, for a tour including gigs in Birmingham and Shrewsbury.

Dan's new album, *That's Where I Belong*, is out this month and Hewardine, who wrote the Eddi Reader hit *Patience of Angels*, releases *Swimming in Mercury*, his first album in seven years, next month. He also has an EP out entitled *Born*.

Whitehouse and Hewardine play *Henry Tudor House* on Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, on Wednesday and then *The Kitchen Garden Cafe* in Kings Heath, Birmingham, on October 5.

## Courteeners are back on the road

INDIE band Courteeners have released a brand new single and details of their biggest UK tour to date, which features a show at Birmingham's O2 Academy on November 17.

Talking about the new single *No One Will Ever Replace Us*, the band's Liam Fray said: "It's about finding love in the unlikely surroundings of Glasstonbury, when you've got something so good and you don't want it to end."

The autumn UK tour, with support from Clean Cut Kid, coincides with the release of fifth album *Mapping the Rendezvous* on October 21, produced by regular collaborator Joe Cross.

## Labyrinth returns to the big screen

STARTING this month Showcase Cinemas in Dudley and Walsall will be offering some classic movies on the big screen.

The Flashback screenings will show an all-time favourite each month at Showcase locations around the UK.

The season launches on Tuesday at 7.30pm with cult classic *Labyrinth*, featuring David Bowie as the Goblin King and Jim Henson's Muppet-like creatures. *Labyrinth* celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

It will be followed by Halloween screenings of *The Exorcist*, *Pulp Fiction* in November, and Christmas favourite *It's A Wonderful Life* in December.

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## CHOICE



Katie Derham

### Last Night of the Proms (BBC1, 8.50pm)

Katie Derham remains at the Royal Albert Hall for the second half of the BBC's televised coverage of the Last Night, featuring the BBC Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Sakari Oramo. The evening's performances continue with an Olympic-themed recital of Michael Torke's Javelin, which originally received its debut at the 1996 Games in Atlanta. Composer Anne Dudley contributes her new arrangement 'Fiesta Caribeña', and Peruvian tenor Juan Diego Flórez returns with more Donizetti. A carefully assembled group of young singers performs Serenade to Music, Vaughan Williams' 1938 tribute to Henry Wood, and a feature celebrating Wood's Fantasia on British Sea Songs provides a taste of the Proms in the Park experiences at Colwyn Bay, Glasgow Green and in Belfast.

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast.** 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 James Martin: Home Comforts. (R) 12.00 Football Focus. 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.15 Athletics: Diamond League Highlights. 2.15 Athletics: Great North CityGames. Gabby Logan presents coverage from the Newcastle Gateshead Quayside. 4.15 Final Score. 5.10 BBC News. 5.20 Regional Programme. 5.30 Film: Toy Story 2. (1999) Animated sequel, with the voice of Tom Hanks.

**7.00 Pointless Celebrities.** Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman challenge four teams of stars from the world of music to take part in the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. Former Marillion lead singer Fish teams up with Scottish folk star Barbara Dickson, while Haircut 100's Nick Heyward joins forces with pop rocker Toyah Wilcox. Heather Small, formerly the lead singer of M People, joins the Neaden Queen of Soul Mari Wilson, and Liberty X's Jessica Taylor partners her former bandmate Kelli Young. As ever, the contestants strive to correctly guess the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public.

**7.50 The National Lottery Live.** Team GB medal-winners from the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games push the button and reveal the Lotto and Thunderball numbers.

**8.00 Casualty.** The aftermath of Connie's car crash continues give the staff of Holby's ED cause for concern, as Jac Naylor comes down from the wards to conduct emergency surgery on a patient close to everyone's heart. Meanwhile, Robyn struggles to come up with ideas for 'something special' to do for Glen, and an unexpected friendship begins to form when Lily tries to help Iain realise he doesn't need to be 'Mr Action Man' all the time.

**8.50 Last Night of the Proms.** Katie Derham presents the second half of the BBC's televised coverage of the Last Night, featuring Anne Dudley's 'Fiesta Caribeña' and tributes to composer Henry Wood. 10.30 BBC News: Weather. 10.50 Match of the Day. Highlights of the latest Premier League matches; National Lottery Update. 12.20 Reggie Yates: Touchdown USA. 1.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.10 BBC News.

## BBC2

**6.10 Film:** Annie Oakley. (1935) 7.40 Film: Best of the Badmen. (1951) 9.00 Border Country: The Story of Britain's Lost Middleland. (R) 10.00 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) 11.00 Lost Land of the Tiger. (R) 12.00 Great British Menu. (R) 12.30 Great British Menu. (R) 1.00 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.45 Film: That's Entertainment! III. (1994) Compilation of MGM musical highlights, featuring Gene Kelly. 3.35 Fog It! (R) 4.15 The Hair Bikers' Chicken and Egg. (R) 5.15 Gardeners' World. (R)

**6.15 The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice.** Jo Brand presents a companion show to BBC One's baking contest, featuring unseen footage from the programme and an interview with the week's eliminated baker. (R)

**6.45 Dad's Army.** Godfrey learns his cottage is scheduled for demolition to make way for a new airstrip. (R)

**7.15 Last Night of the Proms.** Katie Derham presents live from the Royal Albert Hall as the Last Night performances get under way. For the second time in his career, Finnish conductor Sakari Oramo returns to conduct the BBC Proms' closing concert, leading the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, and the BBC Singers in an extravagant musical showcase. Also performing this evening is Peruvian tenor Juan Diego Flórez, who tackles arias from operas by Rossini, Donizetti and Offenbach. Plus, Scottish composer Tom Harrold debuts a piece written for the Proms Youth Ensemble.

**8.50 You Have Been Watching - David Croft.** Tribute to the TV comedy writer, who died in 2011, known for his work on the sitcoms Dad's Army, 'Allo 'Allo!, Are You Being Served?, It Ain't Half Hot Mum and Hi-de-Hi! (R)

**9.50 Qi XL.** Extended edition. Sara Pascoe, Jack Whitehall, Adam Hills and Alan Davies attempt to answer host Stephen Fry's range of fiendish questions on the topic of liars and lying. (R)

**10.35 Film: Exhibition.** (2013) Premiere. A couple find the process of selling their house brings repressed anxieties about their relationship to the surface. Drama, starring Viv Albertine and Liam Gillick.

**12.15 Film: Frezzy.** (1972) 2.05 Film: White Elephant. (2012) 3.45 This Is BBC Two.

## ITV

**6.00 CITV:** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. 6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) 6.50 Sooty. (R) 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) 7.05 Super 4. (R) 7.20 Oddbods. (R) 7.25 Scrambled! Scrambled! 7.30 Scrambled! Nerds & Monsters. (R) 7.50 Scrambled! Horrid Henry. (R) 8.10 Scrambled! Looped. 8.30 Scrambled! Be Cool, Scooby-Doo! 9.05 Scrambled! Adventure Time. (R) 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 11.20 Film: Columbo: Lady in Waiting. (1971) 12.50 ITV News: Weather. 1.00 Tipping Point. (R) 2.00 The Chase. (R) 3.00 Pick Me! (R) 4.00 The X Factor. (R) 5.00 Ninja Warrior UK. (R)

**6.00 Regional Programme.** 6.15 ITV News: Weather. 6.30 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from cute kids and crazy animals to pranks and painful-looking accidents. (R)

**7.00 Go for It.** Stephen Mulhern presents the talent-based game show in which members of the public are given a chance to demonstrate their unique - and highly unusual - skills in a challenge designed to wow the nation. Should the competitors successfully pull off their implausible stunts, they stand a chance of winning a £1,000 prize.

**8.00 The X Factor.** Dermot O'Leary presents as Simon Cowell, Nicole Scherzinger, Sharon Osbourne and Louis Walsh appraise the talents of yet more would-be stars in another round of private auditions.

**9.00 Newzoids.** The satirical puppet-based sketch show takes aim at Jon Torode and Greg Wallace, Sarah Lancashire, Donald Trump and Adele.

**9.30 The Jonathan Ross Show.** New series. Renee Zellweger, Patrick Dempsey, John Malkovich, Aisling Bea, a selection of triumphant Team GB athletes, and singer-songwriter Tom Odell visit Jonathan.

**10.30 ITV News:** Weather.

**10.45 Film: United 93.** (2006) Fact-based drama. With Christian Clemenson and Trish Gates. 12.40 Jackpot247. 3.00 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightcurse.

## CHANNEL 4

**7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) 8.00 Frasier. (R) 8.30 Frasier. (R) 9.00 The Morning Line. 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang Theory. 11.25 The Simpsons. (R) 11.55 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 Paralympics 2016 Live. Athletics, track cycling and para-triathlon coverage on day three. 4.00 Paralympics 2016 Live. Wheelchair basketball, table tennis and athletics coverage.

**7.00 Channel 4 News.**

**7.30 Paralympics 2016: Highlights with Clare Balding.** Action from day three of the Games in Rio. Ellie Simmonds began her campaign for more gold in the swimming at the Olympic Aquatics Centre, and the early rounds of the judo got under way at Carioca Arena 3. Plus, Great Britain v Germany in the women's wheelchair basketball at Carioca Arena 1, which was a repeat of the thrilling quarter-final between the sides in London four years ago.

**8.00 The Last Leg: Live from Rio.** Power-lifter Ali Jawad, sprinter Jonnie Peacock and comedian Stephen Mangan joins Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker for a light-hearted review of the third day of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. During the last 24 hours in Brazil, Hannah Cockroft will have started defending her two London 2012 gold medals, and the presenters take more #isitok questions from viewers and athletes alike.

**9.00 Paralympics 2016 Live.** Jonathan Edwards and Clare Balding present continued live coverage on day three of the Games in Rio. ParalympicsGB athletics stars Hannah Cockroft, Graeme Ballard and Richard Whithread all compete in their respective events at the Olympic Stadium, while over at the Rio Olympic Velodrome, Kadeena Cox and Sarah Storey battle for the women's 500m time-trial crown. Brazilian hero Andre Brasil bids to retain his S10 100m backstroke title at the Olympic Aquatics Stadium, and table tennis star Will Bayley will be hoping he is still involved as the semi-finals take place at Riocentro Pavilion 3.

**1.00 Gogglebox.** (R) 1.55 Location, Location. (R) 2.50 Hollyoaks. (R) 4.55 Superfoods: The Real Story. (R) 5.20 Come Dine with Me. (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** 8.25 The Fairly OddParents. 9.00 The Saturday Show Live. 11.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) 12.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) 1.00 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) 2.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 3.00 Rookies and Raids: Police Interceptors Special. (R) 4.00 Police Interceptors. (R) 5.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)

**6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** In north London, agents Del and Dael chase nearly £2,000 owed by a printing company, but the owner denies the debt and starts getting physical. Meanwhile, Stewart and Elmor find themselves caught up in a personal dispute when they try to collect rent arrears from a barber's shop, and in Bedfordshire, Del and Brian try to recover almost £2,000 owed to a funeral director. Stewart and Vic track down a debt of £5,000 from the owner of a computer repair shop in Lincolnshire. (R)

**7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles.** Sam and Callen investigate when five men wearing US Marine uniforms are found dead in a warehouse, discovering they were killed by a lethal toxin that could be used as a bioweapon. (R)

**8.00 NCIS.** Gibbs tries to protect one of his dead daughter's friends, who is being stalked by an Iraq war veteran - but DiNozzo fears he is allowing personal feelings to cloud his judgment. (R)

**8.55 5 News Weekend.**

**9.00 Football on 5: The Championship.** George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games, including Norwich City v Cardiff City, and Sheffield Wednesday v Wigan Athletic.

**10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush.** George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two.

**10.30 The Cars That Made Britain Great.** Celebrities share stories of being on the open road for the first time, including Matthew Wright, who recalls how his second-hand Austin 1300 broke down on the morning of purchase. (R)

**11.30 Impractical Jokers UK.** 12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 Autopsy: Michael Hutchence. (R) 4.00 World's Most Dangerous Prison. (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Four** 7.00 The Genius of Turner: Painting the Industrial Revolution 8.00 Clydebuilt: The Ships That Made the Commonwealth 9.00 Beck: Gunvald 10.30 Duets: The Andy Williams Show 11.30 Hurt Backstage: A Life in Song 1.00 Easy Listening Hits at the BBC 2.00 Top of the Pops: 1982-23 Duets: The Andy Williams Show 3.35 Close

**ITV2** 11.20 The X Factor 12.20 The Xtra Factor Live 1.20 Ninja Warrior UK 2.25 Totally You've Been Framed! Gold 3.30 Film: Looney Tunes: Back in Action 4.30 FYI Daily 4.35 Film: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) 5.20 Film: Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) 6.20 FYI Daily 6.25 Film: Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) 7.10 Film: The Waterboy (1998) 8.10 FYI Daily 8.15 Film: The Waterboy (1998) 9.00 The Xtra Factor Live 10.00 Celebrity Juice 10.50 Family Guy 12.20 American Dad! 1.15 Morn 2.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records 2.30 Planet's Funniest Animals 2.50 Teleshopping 5.50 ITV2 Nightscreen

**ITV3** 11.50 Film: Casablanca (1942) 12.50 FYI Daily 12.55 Film: Casablanca (1942) 1.55 Midsummer Murders 8.00 Doc Martin 9.00 Midsummer Murders 11.00 Lewis 1.00 You're Only Young Twice 1.55 ITV3 Nightscreen 2.30 Teleshopping

**ITV4** 11.55 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 12.55 Cycling: Tour of Britain 2.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain Live. Coverage of the seventh stage of the race. 5.00 Storage Wars 5.55 The Chase: Celebrity Special 7.00 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 8.00 Cycling: Tour of Britain 9.00 Film: The Specialist (1994) 10.05 FYI Daily 10.10 Film: The Specialist (1994) 11.15 Film: Maximum Conviction (2012) 12.15 FYI Daily 12.20 Film: Maximum Conviction (2012) 1.20 Cycling: Vuelta a Espana 2.15 Hell on Wheels 3.00 Teleshopping

**E4** 11.00 Brooklyn Nine-Nine 12.00 The Goldbergs 2.00 Film: Hugo (2011) 4.30 The Big Bang Theory 9.00 Film: I, Robot (2004) 11.15 The Inbetweeners 12.20 Tattoo Fixers 1.20 Rude Tube: Total Stunts 2.25 Drifters 3.00 Chewing Gum 3.15 The Inbetweeners 4.05 Revenge

**Film4** 11.00 Night Passage (1957) 1.00 Aliens in the Attic (2009) 2.45 Dunston Checks In (1996) 4.25 New in Town (2009) 6.15 Clear and Present Danger (1994) 9.00 Taken 2 (2012) 10.45 Devil (2010)

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OFFICE HOURS MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 5PM



CHOICE



**Jimmy Carr and the Science of Laughter – A Horizon Special (BBC2, 9pm)**

The comedian takes over the science programme in a special episode of BBC's sitcom season, turning it into a chat show with eminent scientists as guests. He talks to them about the nature of laughter, with the studio audiences serving as guinea pigs in his attempt to get to the bottom of what laughter is, what it has to do with comedy, and why human beings find it a pleasurable sensation. The programme reveals that laughter predates the human species and may have played a vital role in our evolution.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.00** Match of the Day. (R) **8.30** The Andrew Marr Show. **9.30** Athletics: Great North Run. **1.30** BBC News: Weather. **1.45** Eat Well for Less? (R) **2.45** Points of View. **3.00** Ingenious Animals. (R) **4.00** The Great British Bake Off. (R) **5.00** Lifetime. **5.10** Songs of Praise. **5.45** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **6.35** BBC News. **6.50** Regional Programme. **7.00** Countryfile. Anita Rani explores Anglesey, navigating the notorious Menai Strait, meeting a fisherman who bought an island, and encountering a bloodsucking creature. Adam Henson meets contenders for One Man and His Dog, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. Matt Baker launches this year's Countryfile Ramble for Children in Need, and Tom Heap presents a report on the state of Britain's wildlife. **8.00** Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents a second visit to Audley House, Essex, where items up for valuation include a large bronze cockerel that was buried during both world wars to escape being melted down for ammunition and a table that Napoleon may have signed his abdication on. One visitor to the show has a fascination with design diagrams inspired by an earlier episode – and brings in a collection of 650. **9.00** Poldark. Unwin is attacked by an angry mob following the announcement of the election results. Demetza tries to influence the outcome of Ross's trial. **10.00** BBC News. **10.20** Regional Programme. **10.30** Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's only Premier League match, which saw Swansea City take on Chelsea at the Liberty Stadium. Plus, highlights from the rest of the weekend's fixtures. **11.20** The Women's Football Show. A look at the biggest issues in the women's game, focusing on matters at both club and international level. **11.45** Film: Edge of Darkness. (2010) A homicide detective investigates the death of his activist daughter and stumbles upon a huge political conspiracy. Thriller, starring Mel Gibson and Danny Huston. **1.30** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.35** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.15** The A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.00** Glorious Gardens from Above. (R) **7.45** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.45** Countryfile. (R) **9.40** The Beechgrove Garden. **10.10** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.45** Lorraine Pascale: How to Be a Better Cook. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Hairy Bikers' Best of British. (R) **1.45** Great British Menu. (R) **2.15** Great British Menu. (R) **2.45** Great British Menu. (R) **3.15** Flog It! (R) **4.00** My Congo: Natural World. (R) **5.00** The Story of Are You Being Served? (R) **6.00** Athletics: Great North Run Highlights. Ore Oduba presents action from the half-marathon that ran from Newcastle upon Tyne to South Shields, as Mo Farah attempted to retain his title in the men's elite race. **7.00** New York: America's Busiest City. (R) **8.00** Scotland and the Battle for Britain. The broadcaster presents a two-part programme exploring the transformation of Scottish politics in recent years. The first programme looks back over the shift in power that has occurred since the 1950s, with the Unionists losing ground to Labour, who have ultimately given way to the SNP. With contributions from leading political figures including Nicola Sturgeon, Alex Salmond and Tony Blair. **9.00** Jimmy Carr and the Science of Laughter – A Horizon Special. The comedian discusses laughter with scientists, using a studio audience as test subjects in an attempt to discover what laughter is and why human beings enjoy the sensation. **10.00** Fleabag. Claire takes Fleabag to a silent retreat, where their peaceful solitude is disrupted by some explosive secrets coming to light and a surprising connection with an old acquaintance. **10.30** Murder in Successville. George Shelley helps Sleet solve the murder of computer hacker Ed Sheeran, who has been killed after breaking into the personal files of some very powerful people. **11.00** Absolutely Fashion: Inside British Vogue. Two-part documentary going behind the scenes of the fashion magazine. (R) **12.00** Film: Point Blank. (2010) **1.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.15** Holby City. (R) **3.15** This Is BBC Two. **5.45** Fake Britain. (R)

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Sooty. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Super 4. (R) **7.20** Oddbods. (R) **7.25** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.30** Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Looped. **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** Chopping Block. (R) **12.20** ITV News: Weather. **12.30** Judge Rinder. (R) **1.30** Midsomer Murders. (R) **3.30** Victoria. (R) **4.30** The X Factor. (R) **5.30** Doc Martin. (R) **6.30** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.40** ITV News: Weather. **7.00** The Chase Celebrity Special. New series. Bradley Walsh presents as contestants Colin Baker, David Weir, Chelsea Healey and Alex Horne pit their wits against ruthless quiz genius the Chaser in the hope of winning a potential prize pot worth thousands of pounds. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught. **8.00** The X Factor. Dermot O'Leary introduces the final stage of the room auditions, as more would-be contestants find themselves face to face with the judges in a personal setting. **9.00** Victoria. Prince Albert arrives in England for the first time, and he and Victoria take an instant dislike to each other in an awkward first encounter. However, their disdain quickly passes and an attraction grows between them, to Melbourne's dismay. Below stairs, Albert's valet clashes with the royal servants, while Skerrett is visited by a girl in need of money. **10.05** ITV News: Weather. **10.20** Slow Train Through Africa with Griff Rhys Jones. The comedian takes to the skies for a bird's-eye view of one of South Africa's largest ostrich farms and catches a luxurious train to Cape Town. (R) **11.20** Premiership Rugby Union. **12.15** Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.15** Shipping Wars. (R) **6.40** Motor Sport: Mini Challenge. **7.10** The King of Queens. (R) **7.35** The King of Queens. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **9.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** Sunday Brunch. **1.00** Paralympics 2016 Live. Athletics, para-triathlon and rowing coverage on day four. **4.00** Paralympics 2016 Live. Track cycling, wheelchair basketball and table tennis coverage. **7.00** Channel 4 News. **7.30** Paralympics 2016: Highlights with Clare Balding. Action from day four of the Games in Rio. Various athletics and swimming finals took place at the Olympic Stadium and Olympic Aquatics Stadium respectively, as well as track cycling at the Rio Olympic Velodrome, rowing at the Lagoa Stadium and the first-ever women's para-triathlon at the Paralympics, which took place at Fort Copacabana. **8.00** The Last Leg: Live from Rio. Adam Hills, Josh Widdicombe and Alex Brooker are joined on day four of the games by comedian Johnny Vegas and Paralympic cyclist Jody Cundy and Jon-Allan Butterworth, as well as a special appearance by Richard Whitehead, who is due to defend his 2012 title in the 200m later tonight. **9.00** Paralympics 2016 Live. Clare Balding introduces continued coverage on day four of the Games in Rio. The main focal point will once again be the Olympic Stadium, as two of the stars of London 2012 hope to compete for medals once again. "Blade runner" Richard Whitehead will be expected to line up for the T42 200m, which he won in London, but he may have some company as team-mate Dave Henson also aims for a medal in the same event. David Weir opens his campaign in the T54 400m heats, while the likes of Tom Harner, Rebecca Redfern, Bethany Firth and Steph Millward all go in various swimming events at the Olympic Aquatics Stadium. **1.00** 999: What's Your Emergency? Ambulance crews help women in labour. Last in the series. (R) **1.55** The World's Weirdest Weather. (R) **2.50** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R) **3.45** Countdown. (R) **4.30** Superfoods: The Real Story. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.55** 3rd Rock from the Sun. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Pets. (R) **7.10** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.40** Little Princess. (R) **7.55** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.10** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.55** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.20** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** The Fairly OddParents. **10.30** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** Funniest Fails, Fails & Flops. **12.30** Now That's Funny! (R) **1.30** Film: Fly Me to the Moon. (2008) Premiere. Animated adventure, with the voice of Tim Curry. **3.05** Film: Bewitched. (2005) Romantic fantasy comedy, with Nicole Kidman and Will Ferrell. **4.55** Film: Made of Honor. (2008) Romantic comedy, starring Patrick Dempsey and Michelle Monaghan. **7.00** First Day at Big School. Documentary following a class of four-year-old children during their first week of school as they connect with their new surroundings and each other. **7.55** 5 News Weekend. **8.00** Mysteries of the Bermuda Triangle. Documentary about the area of the north Atlantic between Florida, Puerto Rico and Bermuda where it is alleged many boats and aeroplanes have gone missing. Stories about strange events in the region include a US Coast Guard ship that detected a phantom landmass on its radar, two "ghost rockets" that flew silently over a US Navy ship and Russian submarines that reported all manner of bizarre activity. There are interviews with some of the leading experts on this mystery, air traffic controllers Bob Greene and Bob Gish, pilots Bruce Gernon and Fred Grieser, underwater explorers Evan Kovacs and Les Savage and weather expert Dr Stephen Leatherman. (R) **9.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Agents Stewart and Iain head to Manchester, where a landlord is owed £8,000 in rent arrears and has already called for police back-up. Meanwhile, Brian and Del chase £3,000. (R) **10.00** Most Shocking Celebrity Moments of the 80s. **12.50** Lip Sync Battle. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Secrets of the SAS. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four** **7.00** From Andy Pandey to Zebedee: The Golden Age of Children's TV **8.00** Madness on Wheels: Rallying's Craziest Years **9.00** The Comet's Tale **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: How Big Is the Universe? **11.30** Metamorphosis – The Science of Change **12.30** Operation Crossbow **1.30** The Beginning and End of the Universe **2.30** Horizon: How Big Is the Universe? **3.30** Close **ITV2** **12.00** The X Factor **1.00** The Xtra Factor Live **2.00** You've Been Framed! Gold: family Special **2.45** Film: Horrid Henry: The Movie (2011) **3.50** FYI Daily **3.55** Film: Horrid Henry: The Movie (2011) **4.35** Film: Hotel for Dogs (2009) **5.35** FYI Daily **5.40** Film: Hotel for Dogs (2009) **6.30** Film: The Mummy (1999) **7.30** FYI Daily **7.35** Film: The Mummy (1999) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** Family Guy **11.55** American Dad! **12.55** Bordertown **1.25** The Cleveland Show **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3** **4.50** Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) **5.50** FYI Daily **5.55** Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) **7.00** Foyle's War **9.00** Neil Diamond: One Night Only **10.15** Film: Out of Sight (1998) **11.15** FYI Daily **11.20** Film: Out of Sight (1998) **12.40** Wire in the Blood **3.15** May the Best House Win **5.00** You're Only Young Twice **5.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **ITV4** **11.30** Storage Wars: Best of the Finds **12.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **1.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **2.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain Live **5.00** Goals of the 80s **5.15** Storage Wars: Best of the Blunders **5.45** Film: Shalako (1968) **6.50** FYI Daily **6.55** Film: Shalako (1968) **8.00** Cycling: Tour of Britain **9.00** Premiership Rugby Union **10.00** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **11.00** Film: United 93 (2006) **12.00** FYI Daily **12.05** Film: United 93 (2006) **1.10** Hell on Wheels **2.05** Cycling: Vuelta a Espana **E4** **12.00** Stage School **2.40** The Goldbergs **4.35** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** Film: Independence Day (1996) **9.50** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **10.55** Gogglebox **1.00** Containment **2.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **2.45** Rude Tube: Viral Ads **3.40** Hollyoaks **Film4** **1.00** The Seeker: The Dark Is Rising (2007) **3.00** The Three Stooges (2012) **5.00** Inkheart (2008) **7.05** The Two Faces of January (2014) **9.00** The Inbetweeners Movie (2011) **10.55** Dorian Gray (2009)

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## FILM CHOICES

### MONDAY

**Fight For Life: Ultimate Legacy, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A self-absorbed young man is challenged to develop a conscience and change his ways in order to receive an inheritance. Drama, starring Doug Jones. (2015)

### TUESDAY

**Stranger in an Amish Town, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A penniless stranger and his son turn up on the doorstep of three Amish sisters, who offer him a place to stay and a job as a handyman. The women's police officer niece is suspicious of the new arrival and tries to find out where he has come from. Romantic mystery based on Serena B Miller's novel Love Finds You in Sugarcoke, Ohio, starring Sarah Lancaster, Tom Everett Scott and Kelly McGillis. (2014)

### WEDNESDAY

**Left to Die: The Sandra & Tammi Chase Story, Channel 5, 3.15pm**

A woman takes a holiday in Ecuador, but ends up arrested for drug trafficking and incarcerated in a brutal prison. Her daughter devotes herself to getting her released, facing a lengthy battle with bureaucracy and a foreign legal system she knows nothing of. Fact-based prison drama, starring Barbara Hershey and Rachael Leigh Cook. (2012)



Swingers, Friday, BBC1, 11.35pm

### THURSDAY

**Rabbit Hole, BBC1, 11.45pm**

A couple's happy lives are thrown into upheaval by the death of their son in a road accident. As they try to keep their marriage from falling apart, the wife forms a friendship with the driver responsible for the tragedy while the husband immerses himself in the past and turns to another bereaved parent for support. Drama, with Nicole Kidman and Aaron Eckhart. (2010)

### FRIDAY

**Swingers, BBC1, 11.35pm**

Struggling actor Mike's confidence is shattered when his girlfriend breaks up with him. His charismatic friend Trent resolves to let him wallow in self pity, and hurls the lovesick Mike into the Hollywood singles scene in the hope of him acquiring some new female company and recovering his self-esteem. Comedy, starring Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn. (1996)

# Jools proves he is still King of the music shows

The pianist and bandleader returns with a new run of his musical showcase – the 49th in total for anyone who's still counting.

And it gets off to a flier, as Nashville's Kings of Leon present material from forthcoming record Walls, their first new album in three years.

After overcoming tensions following the release of 2013's Mechanical Bull, the Southern rock gods have mixed things up for their seventh LP.

They uprooted their families to Los Angeles to record, worked with a new producer, experimented with unfamiliar sounds, and committed themselves to the most personal lyrics of their career.

The result seems to be a band with a renewed purpose, proud of their boldest record yet. Frontman Caleb Followill explained their current mindset to Entertainment Weekly.

"We're in the best place we've ever been," he says.

"We're enjoying what we're doing, and we have a great relationship outside of making music.

"A lot of bands don't make it this long, especially family bands. Right now we're more excited than we've ever been to work."

Caleb, along with his brothers Nathan and Jared, and cousin Matthew will be in the studio this evening, and hopefully fans will get the chance to hear classic tracks such as Sex on Fire, Use Somebody and Notion, as well as songs from Walls.

Next on the bill is Jack White, who makes his solo acoustic debut, re-interpreting songs from his back catalogue.

White is best known as the lead singer and guitarist of duo The White Stripes, along with fellow Detroit native Meg White.

However, he has also had success in other bands and as a solo artist, and is widely credited as one of the key artists in the garage rock revival of the 2000s.

Also joining Jools in the studio is Sting, performing tracks from 57th & 9th, his 13th solo work, which is slated for release in November.

Following forays into classical music,

the 64-year-old's new record has much more rock-oriented sound which is sure to please many of his loyal fans from his days as frontman of The Police.

American singer and songwriter Jillian Rose Banks, better known simply as Banks, delivers a slice dark Rn'B with music predominantly from her second album The Altar.

Following the release of two extended plays, Fall Over and London, in 2013, Banks released her debut album, Goddess, in 2014.

The Altar, which is due for release in a couple of weeks should build of her already growing reputation on both sides of the Atlantic.

Finally, Anthony Gonzalez's French electronic music band M83, present their 1980s-inflected disco dream pop.

The band has released seven albums and two soundtracks so far, including the Grammy Award-nominated Hurry Up, We're Dreaming, which they followed up back in April with Junk – the band's first studio release without long-time vocalist and keyboardist Morgan Kibby.



Later Live – with Jools Holland, Tuesday, BBC2, 10pm

## BEST OF THE REST

### MONDAY

**Celebrity Home Secrets ITV, 8pm**

Janet Street-Porter has been a regular on TV for so long it's hard to remember a time when she wasn't adding her opinion to Loose Women or shaping youth TV with shows such as Network 7 and the Eighties BBC2 strand Def II. She was born Janet Bul in December 1946, and grew up in Parsons Green, west London. Cash was so tight, her electrical engineer father and school dinner lady mother could only afford to live in half the house. At 19, she moved into a Council flat in Fulham, and put her architect studies on hold to write for Petticoat Magazine, before landing a job as the Daily Mail's deputy fashion editor. In this offering, the outspoken rambler visits her former homes in London; shares memories from her time there, and also reveals what she most enjoys doing in her current Yorkshire residence.

### TUESDAY

**Eamonn & Ruth: How the Other Half Lives Channel 5, 9pm**

Once again we vicariously experience life as a multi-millionaire, albeit one interrupted by adverts. For episode one Eamonn Holmes and Ruth Langford are New York-bound, home to more

millionaires than anywhere else on the planet. Eamonn meets Mr Chatwal and his son Vikram, who run a hotel empire together, and enjoy 1,000-dollar ice cream sundaes covered in edible 24-carat gold. Meanwhile, Ruth is in the Hamptons, one of the world's most exclusive real-estate regions. She meets party planner Andrea Corrae, who works with string of A-list clients, often on some rather bizarre projects. The final trip is to the Big Apple's Upper East Side, where they chat to Mrs Barsky, a resident of the opulent Carlyle Hotel for the past 23 years.

### WEDNESDAY

**Natural World – Jaguars: Brazil's Super Cats BBC2, 9pm**

There have been some impressive runners at the Rio Olympics, but even Usain Bolt looks like an amateur compared to Brazil's jaguars. This compelling documentary follows a group of pioneering experts as they hope to gain a fresh insight into the big cats' lives. It could have been just another of those nature strands the BBC does so well; one with amazing photography and jaw-

dropping moments. However, things don't quite go to plan for the boffins, because when a couple of cubs are orphaned, the team must use all of their newly acquired knowledge to help them return to the wild. Will they be successful, or like one of their greedy subjects, have they bitten off more than they can chew?

### THURSDAY

**The Doctor Who Gave Up Drugs BBC1, 9pm**

It seems that one side effect of taking medically prescribed drugs is that we are becoming too reliant on them – prescription rates have been rising to the point where someone born today might easily consume 100,000 pills over the course of their lifetime. While Dr Chris van Tulleken knows that many drugs can improve or even save the lives of patients, he's also worried about the harm they can do, and now he's taking over part of a



Celebrity Home Secrets, Monday, ITV, 8pm

GP surgery to see if some common illnesses could be better treated without them. That means convincing one patient that the painkillers she takes for chronic shoulder pain don't really work, and helping another to find an alternative to antidepressants. But it's when the focus shifts to antibiotics that Chris faces his toughest challenge.

### FRIDAY

**The Cars That Made Britain Great Channel 5, 8pm**

Rufus Hound continues his guide through Britain's proud motoring history, celebrating the classic cars of yesteryear. In this edition, fashion model and racing car driver Jodie Kidd extols the virtues of the Jaguar E-Type which she believes has lost none of its appeal since its 1961 introduction, citing it as the sexiest, sleekest and most irresistible car of all time. The Ford Capri and the Lotus Europa are also appraised, courtesy of car enthusiast Jonny Smith and former international cricketer Phil Tufnell.

### Would I Lie to You?

**BBC1, 8.30pm**

Team captains David Mitchell and Lee Mack are joined by Sara Cox, Jason Manford, Nick Robinson and Harry Shearer, aiming to deceive their opponents with plausible lies.

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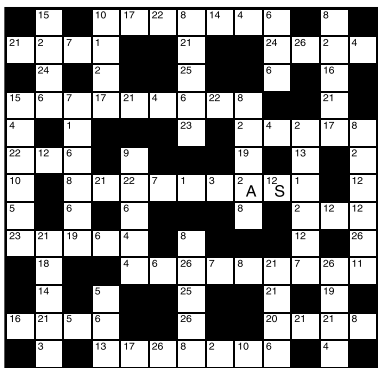
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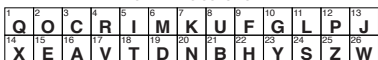
# BRAIN GYM No.394

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

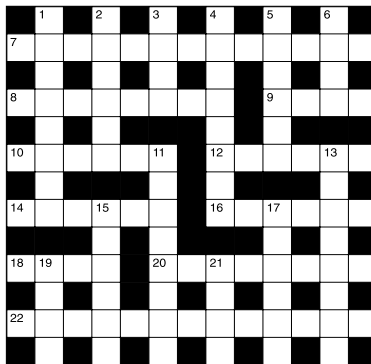
### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

7. Does the empirical approach lead to a miscarriage of justice? (5,3,5)
8. Clear political programme lacking nothing (8)
9. Unruffled poetic time of day (4)
10. One who eats out (6)
12. Yale is reformed in a facile way (6)
14. Conference, we hear, for making allocations (6)
16. Current source of power is about right (6)
18. See 1 Down
20. Star-studded team with genuine following (8)
22. Into which troops were thrown? (7,6)

#### Down

- 1 & 18Ac. Give a shattering report? (5,3,4)
2. Whip about six for being extravagant (6)
- 3 & 5Dn. What clerics and sales representatives do (4,6)
4. Female journalist resisted change (8)
5. See 3 Down
6. A wood, one hears, will reveal the trunk (4)
11. A record showing the compass of an instrument (8)
13. Can be advanced as a clue (8)
15. Lowly creature - one with strange scent (6)
17. It's a noun, but certainly not a common one! (6)
19. Send forth when an occasion arises (4)
21. You'll find people who are outstanding in this (4)



### Quick Clues:

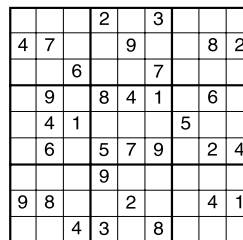
#### Across

7. Fall (4,2,7)
8. Tonic (4-2-2)
9. Notion (4)
10. Beautiful child (6)
12. Rarely (6)
14. Calamitous (6)
16. Ridicule (6)
18. Post (4)
20. Seemly (8)
22. Exactly (4,3,6)

#### Down

1. Buffing machine (8)
2. Kind of hoe (6)
3. Painful (4)
4. Imperturbable (8)
5. Piercing (6)
6. Formerly (4)
11. Spine (8)
13. Usual (8)
15. In plenty (6)
17. Hearsay (6)
19. Absent (4)
21. Price (4)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

9	5	3	6	7	8	4	1	2
8	6	4	3	1	2	5	7	9
1	2	7	9	5	4	8	3	6
7	1	9	4	8	3	2	6	5
6	8	5	2	9	1	3	4	7
4	3	2	6	7	1	9	8	5
5	9	8	1	4	6	7	2	3
3	4	6	7	2	5	9	8	1
2	7	1	8	3	9	6	5	4

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Fret; 8 Obliterate; 9 Charming; 10 Sift; 12 Garage; 14 Sentry; 15 Agreed; 17 Darned; 18 Lens; 19 Coverage; 21 Imposition; 22 Keep. Down: 2 Right angle; 3 Tour; 4 Place; 5 Stages; 6 Prisoner; 7 Felt; 11 Fire engine; 13 Aversion; 16 Decoit; 17 Devoid; 18 Laid; 20 Rank. QUICK - Across: 1 Miss; 8 Excellence; 9 Back-door; 10 Odds; 12 Midget; 14 Chancy; 15 Gamer; 17 Retort; 18 Fear; 19 Separate; 21 Systematic; 22 King. Down: 2 Invalidate; 3 Seek; 4 Accost; 5 Cleric; 6 Resonant; 7 Lees; 11 Decoration; 13 Generate; 16 Resume; 17 Repute; 18 Fast; 20 Rock.

## Quiz

1. Of which country have there been four King Waldemars?
2. Which Hollywood film studio was founded in 1915 by Carl Laemmle?
3. Who painted The Bathers and La Loge?
4. Which plant is also known as hardhead?
5. With which metal is the Iron Cross edged?
6. From which birds do humans contract psittacosis?
7. Which beverage may be black or green?
8. Which Irish politician is the leader of Sinn Fein?
9. On which river is Leicester?
10. Which two countries have a Brabant province?

### Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Nano; 2 Germany; 3 Sapphire;

4 Measles; 5 Jura mountains; 6 Hazel;

7 Sheila Mercier; 8 E M Forster; 9 Elm;

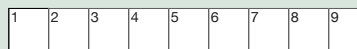
10 A cereal grass.

Niner: SCOUNDREL

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

657239695 gives an instrumentalist,  
3195546 gives an entertainer,  
21895 gives an underground worker.



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# Czech this out: Pretty Prague is not just about beer and stag dos

**MENTION** a trip to Prague and there is usually a fairly predictable response about cheap beer and often memories of stag dos!

To be fair, this is normally accompanied by a description of how beautiful a city Prague is. Which indeed it is.

Thousands of years of history, architecture and culture can be found in these streets of the capital of the Czech Republic.

And it is also fair to say that Czechs love their beer. Our tour guide announced with some pride that latest figures showed the Czech Republic drinks the most beer in the world at 143 litres per head. Britain did not make the top 10!

But this particular guide, Jan Macuch, was actually leading a Food Lover's Guide to Prague tour. Now I like beer, but I do love my food and this tour visits some of the

## Prague

most interesting, charming and authentic restaurants dotted around the city. As we walked between food stops we were given an insight into the nooks and crannies far from the usual tourist beat.

The tour started in a gingerbread 'house', a quaint little business run by two sisters-in-law. Their biscuits are made to authentic recipes and include the mouth-watering plum jam and tasty poppy seed kolache.

Next stop was two neighbouring traders. On the left was Sisters, making traditional open-faced sandwiches which are smaller than the Scandinavian offering with quite exciting fillings from local ingredients. Next door was the local artisan butchers with the speciality Prague ham and tasty sausage cured to traditional methods.

Dipping through the alleyways of the Old

Town we went to Restaurant Zvonice – possibly the best kept secret in Prague. Set inside a belltower, with heavy beams, a cosy atmosphere and city views, this was a very special experience. Here we tasted the Old Bohemian Soup, a thick, creamy meal with an unusual sausage twist.

## Imposing

From here we moved to the hidden courtyard cafe of Styl & Interior. This began as an interiors shop but was so popular because of the coffee it provided that it also developed as a garden cafe.

The three-hour tour concluded at Cave Louvre, an imposing building that has been in business since 1902. Here we went for a true traditional dinner with Czech dumplings (much lighter than the British ones), braised beef and cranberry compote, followed by apple strudel.

It may be worth pointing out that Eating Prague Tours also launched a beer tour, Brews and Views, on July 19.

Beer and food aside, I have always wanted to visit Prague and was delighted when Czech Airlines began flying from Birmingham Airport to Václav Havel airport in April. This historic city was now just a two-hour flight away and there was no reason not to indulge my curiosity.

English is widely spoken in Prague so it is easy enough to find your way around the city visiting some of the amazing sights and indulging your tastebuds. The frequent trams make getting around the city very simple. It was only 110 koruna (about £3) for a 24-hour ticket.

But if you really want to learn about this proud city which in recent decades alone has undergone occupation, socialism and finally independence a guided tour is advised.

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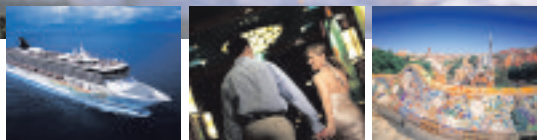
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# Top chefs dishing up at food festival

Ludlow Food Festival comes of age with a celebration of fine fare

**TOP chefs and food writers travel from France, Cumbria, London and Norfolk to line up at the 21st Ludlow Food Festival this weekend.**

Among them will be MBEs, best-selling authors, Michelin star holders and trophy winners from some of TV's toughest cookery shows.

Chefs cooking at the festival, which takes place on September 9 to 11, will include Great British Menu winner Richard Bainbridge and Masterchef: The Professionals winner Mark Stinchcombe, alongside his wife and fellow award-winning chef Sue.

Shropshire-born Adam Johnson, development chef to Raymond Blanc and his TV partner on Kitchen Secrets, will be making a return to the county.

## Masterchef

Romy Gill MBE, is one of the few female chefs in the UK and owner of Romy's Kitchen in Thornbury Bristol. A recent Masterchef judge, she will be sharing her passion for Indian food and talking about her role as a Slow Food Ambassador.

Sophie Michell is well-known as one of the four female chefs behind the cult TV series Cook Yourself Thin. She is a chef, speaker and author of a number of best-selling cookbooks.

The list of female talent continues with an appearance from Jo Hampson, owner of Smoky Jo's Cookery School in Cumbria, considered the UK's experts in smoking food and the first place in the UK to offer a smoked food course. Whilst Shropshire's own Suree



Gluten-free guru Howard Middleton

Coates will be giving some of the tips that made her Thai Curry Chef of the year.

Warwick Kidd, whose late father, Graeme, co-founded the festival, will travel from his kitchen at the Dornay House Hotel in the Cotswolds. He will be joined by friend and fellow chef Eric Delande of the Place des Marches in Corbieres, southern France.

Great British Bake Off fans will undoubtedly welcome a second visit from show favourite Howard Middleton, who will cook more of his gluten free bakes.

A full list of chefs is available at [www.foodfestival.co.uk](http://www.foodfestival.co.uk) along with lots more information about this year's events.

Once again the historic castle and



Great British Menu's Richard Bainbridge

the town centre will be given over to a celebration of food with more than 150 producers from throughout Wales and the English border counties.

Events and demonstrations will include tutored tastings, cookery lessons and the ever popular sausage and ale trails around the medieval Shropshire town. There will even be quirky Gorilla Guides around the town. There will also be book signings, activities for children and a photographic exhibition.

The event starts at 10am daily, until 5pm on Friday and Sunday, 6.30pm on Saturday. Tickets are £8.50 (£2 children, aged 5 to 13). A family ticket for two adults and up to four children costs £20.

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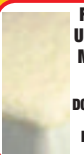
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A superb 3 bedroom refurbished semi-detached house comprising of: entrance hall, 2 reception rooms, beautiful kitchen, 2 double & 1 single bedrooms, house bathroom with separate shower, rear garden & driveway for 1 car and a garage. This family home is situated in a very popular location and offers a very long rental opportunity. EPC: D



**AMBLESCOTE, High Street £775 pcm+Fees**  
A fantastic opportunity to rent a home on a select development: 'Crystal Gardens'. This home features a spacious lounge/dining area, well appointed kitchen, downstairs WC, the 1st floor has 2 bedrooms & a family bathroom & on the 2nd floor there is a master bedroom with a large en-suite, 2 allocated parking spaces, front & rear gardens. This property will not be available for long. Minimum contract 12 months. EPC: B



**HALESOWEN, Wassell Road£675 pcm+Fees**  
A large unfurnished semi-detached house in central Halesowen which features: entrance porch, lounge, fully fitted kitchen, covered side entrance, private rear garden, 3 good size bedrooms, large bathroom with shower over bath, garage & driveway. Also benefiting from gas central heating and double glazing. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, Bethesda Gardens£550 pcm+Fees**  
Located on this new build estate is this modern ground floor apartment, coming unfurnished, briefly comprising of: 2 bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, modern bathroom with shower, fitted kitchen with white goods, open plan spacious lounge, gas central heating, double glazing, allocated parking. A must view property. EPC: C



**KIDDERMINSTER, Patin House£500 pcm+Fees**  
You'll love this charming 1st floor apartment set in a converted Victorian house offering you fully central heating, an open plan lounge giving you generous space to move about, fitted kitchen with appliances and granite worktops, large bathroom with shower, 1 bedroom, allocated parking and well kept communal gardens. Situated in a friendly community. This property is available immediately. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Alwin Road £450 pcm+Fees**  
A 1 bedroom ground floor flat being double glazed with electric heating. The accommodation, which has been refurbished briefly comprises a reception hall, lounge, kitchen, 1 bedroom, bathroom, communal gardens and parking. EPC: TBC



**DUDLEY, Greystone Passage£395 pcm+Fees**  
A recently redecorated 1st floor flat within walking distance to Dudley Town Centre. Featuring kitchen, 1 bedroom, bathroom with shower, Garden, off road parking. Unfurnished. This property must be seen and not missed. EPC: E



**SUTTON COLDFIELD, Hartopp COURT£800 pcm+Fees**  
A delightful ground floor 2 bedroom apartment with an en-suite to master. The property has excellent links to Birmingham City Centre, being located a short walk from the railway station, is gas centrally heated and double glazed and is located in a gated complex with secure allocated parking. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Summerfields Avenue£750 pcm+Fees**  
Located in the ever popular area of Hurst Green, is this semi-detached house, finished to a high standard, comprising 3 bedrooms, modern fitted kitchen, modern bathroom with shower, very large lounge, double glazing, gas central heating, rear garden, driveway parking and garage, unfurnished. EPC: D



**HALESOWEN, George Road£595 pcm+Fees**  
Located in a sought after area of Halesowen. This lovely 2 bed terraced property with off road parking features a large lounge, fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, white bathroom suite and shower, off road parking and a good size rear garden. EPC: D



**WORDSLEY, Wordsley Court£535 pcm+Fees**  
1st floor fully refurbished large apartment within walking distance of Wordsley Green & King George V park. Featuring lovely lounge, 2 generous size double bedrooms, fitted kitchen, shower room, secure parking to rear of property. EPC: C



**HALESOWEN, Tenterfields £495 pcm+Fees**  
A superb 1st floor flat in central Halesowen with parking space. This lovely apartment features a lovely lounge, fitted kitchen (no white goods), bathroom with shower, double bedroom, gas central heating, communal garden. EPC: D.



**NETHERTON, Mousesweet Lane£450 pcm+Fees**  
A modern style furnished to suit ground floor apartment in superbly convenient location in a quiet cul-de-sac featuring entrance hallway, lounge with electric fire, fitted kitchen with appliances, 1 double bedroom, bathroom suite with shower, rear access to private courtyard, driveway for 2 cars, gas central heating, double glazing. EPC: D



**PENSNETT, St Marks Court£395 pcm+Fees**  
An unfurnished ground floor flat, close to Russells Hall Hospital, briefly comprising of: electric storage heating, living room, fitted kitchen, double bedroom, bathroom with shower, communal garden, allocated parking space. EPC: TBC



**DUDLEY, Lister Road £775 pcm+Fees**  
A superbly presented 3 bedroom detached traditional house situated in a popular well established neighborhood close to excellent local amenities and with easy access to transport links. This property briefly comprises of: 2 good size lounges, modern fitted kitchen/utility area with wc, 3 good sized bedrooms, family bathroom, large private rear garden. Garage & driveway parking. EPC: TBC



**HALESOWEN, Springfield Drive£695 pcm+Fees**  
With easy access to both Halesowen and Blackheath Town Centre and the M5. This 3 bed semi detached house features 2 good size reception rooms, large kitchen, house bathroom with shower, downstairs wc, garage with driveway parking, front & rear gardens. EPC: D



**BLACKHEATH, Long Lane £575 pcm+Fees**  
A well presented two bedroom mid terrace property close to railway & bus links. This modern home benefits from double glazing and briefly comprises: hallway, spacious lounge, kitchen, conservatory, 2 bedrooms, bathroom suite & shower over bath, electric storage heaters, front & rear garden and parking to the rear of the property. EPC: E



**HALESOWEN, Hammersley Close£535 pcm+Fees**  
Located in a nice quiet cul-de-sac on the Homer Hill Estate. Just down the road from Colley Lane Primary School and buses to Halesowen and Cradley Heath. This unfurnished modern terraced house features 2 bedrooms, fitted kitchen, spacious lounge, bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, driveway for 2 cars, rear garden. Viewing highly recommended. EPC: C



**ROWLEY REGIS, Winchester Close£475 pcm+Fees**  
A well presented, unfurnished ground floor apartment, close to the M5 J2. This apartment features 2 bedrooms, fitted kitchen, lounge, double glazing, bathroom with shower, parking space and parking area for visitors, communal gardens. EPC: D



**STOURBRIDGE, Stamberrill House£425 pcm+Fees**  
COMING SOON!! Fully refurbished apartments within a stones throw of Stourbridge Town Centre and on the number 9 bus route. This stunning 1 bedroom apartment on the ground floor features an open plan lounge/fitted kitchen, shower room, 1 double bedroom & private rear parking. Not to be missed! EPC: TBC



**NETHERTON, St Georges Road£395 pcm+Fees**  
Beautiful refurbishment in a quiet location. This 1st floor apartment features electric storage heating, living room, brand new kitchen, 1 very large double bedroom, modern house bathroom with shower, rear garden, parking space. Viewing recommended to appreciate this nicely proportioned flat. EPC: D

## PROPERTY



## Prestigious four-bedroom home in a cul-de-sac

**A prestigious and spacious detached family home in Buckingham Grove, Kingswinford, is for sale through selling agents Hicks Hadley.**

It is being marketed at an asking price of £360,000.

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£360,000

the conservatory, a fitted solid wood kitchen with appliances and breakfast bar, a utility room, a large downstairs bedroom with fitted furniture, a vanity unit and shower.

There is a downstairs guest cloaks,

three further double bedrooms to the first floor with the master having an en suite shower and a house bathroom.

The property has landscaped gardens, a sweeping driveway and many luxury features.

For further information contact Hicks Hadley on 0121 5856667 or visit [www.hickshadley.com](http://www.hickshadley.com)

## Detached large family residence in a desirable area

### HALESOWEN

£375,000

>>>

**This large four-bedroomed detached residence in Spies Lane, Halesowen, is in a much sought-after location.**

With three reception rooms and a double garage, it is for sale through Taylors at £375,000. With gas central heating, its accommodation briefly comprises a welcoming entrance hall, a lounge, a dining room, a morning room, a breakfast kitchen and a ground floor bathroom.

There is a gallery landing, four double bedrooms, a house bathroom, a double garage and pleasant gardens to the rear and side. There is also a block paved drive providing off road parking.

Contact Taylors on 0121 5503978 or visit the website at [www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk](http://www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk)





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**LADY**, 48, 5ft2, hazel eyes, brown hair, likes bowling, meals out, nights in, ice skating, looking for a toy boy, 30-42, who is fun and enjoys life to have a good time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 422679

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**JACKIE**, 49, dark hair, green eyes, cuddly build, likes going out, gym, reading, looking for an honest gentleman for a friendship/possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 42257

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**CARRIE** single 29yr old slim pretty Care Assistant, looking for a fun guy for nights in/out, good times, love and laughter. Give me a ring. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423489

**BEV** 32, 5ft, petite, very pretty, trendy with a great figure and big personality, loves animals, children and WLTm fun male to be my soul mate. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423473

**CAROL**, 38, slim gorgeous brunnett with lots of interests looking to put some romance back into life, seeking willing male to spoil her and love her. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423439

**SANDY**, mature, very young looking widow seeks fit young man to enjoy fun, cuddles and kisses. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423493

YOUR regional dating service, run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990. REAL people in YOUR region

To Reply to members call:

**0906 500 3955**  
calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and key it in to us promptly when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

To Reply by text:

Text... REPLY26 (leave space) box number (leave space) and then enter your message & send to 80098 or REPLY26 123456 to get in touch. Texts sent to 80098. Successfully received messages cost £1.50 per SMS received (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.



Dates in YOUR region

Been left a message? Pickup your replies on:

**0906 500 3957**  
calls cost £1.55 per min plus your phone company's access charge.

## Single Men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

**YOUNG** looking male, medium build, quite tanned, looking for a lovely lady. Age unimportant, just wanna be happy. Text only Mailbox: 5533023

**ASIAN** gent, 51 and 5'10, average build, n/s, WLTm female of any nationality for friendship and fun, Derby area. Text only Mailbox: 5526817

**DAVE**, 6ft tall, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, single, professional guy, loves music, WLTm down to earth lady with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423659

**EASY-GOING** Male, 45, 6', likes sport & gardening. Seeks nice Female for good relationship. B'ham. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341839

**IAN**, 58, medium build, ohoc, late 50s, likes most things, holidays, gardening, motorbikes, wltm similar aged lady, 50-60, with nice personality. Tel: 0906 515 3028 Box 421345

**CHRISTIAN** male 51, seeking Christian female, 35-45 for friendship, possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 423747

**YOUNG** at heart, 54-year-old male, green eyes, athletic build, GSOH. WLTm female for fun and romance, status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 421481

**MALE** 65 years young seeks slim active N/S lady for hopeful LTR. If you enjoy travelling/backpacking etc. please get in touch. Text only Mailbox: 5533629

**GEORGE** 48, seeking mature female 50 to 80 for no strings adult fun. Text only Mailbox: 5525079

## Customer support

Call **0207 720 7130** Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm  
or email us at **support@jmediauk.co.uk**

**http://dating.expressandstar.com**

CALL CHARGES\*: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 0844 calls cost 7 pence per min, 090 calls cost £1.55 per min, plus your phone company's access charge. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT\*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to [www.localdates-terms.co.uk/](http://www.localdates-terms.co.uk/). REPLY BY TEXT\*: 80098/89990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 150 characters). Guaranteed up to 4 messages for each message you send. SMS only available when phone on show. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to choose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. To STOP text stop to 80098/89990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES\*: By texting any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message. To opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, SW4 7BX, 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details on to this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. Advertisers may come from our national database and from our pdc app. w/c 05/09/16

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**Only £99.99 plus £4.95 P&P**

Smaller than a standard electric lawnmower, the lawn rake and scarifier means an end to the traditional heavy and laborious work of raking and scarifying your lawn. Simply select the interchangeable head you require (scarifying or rake), plug in and go!

Includes handles that fold down when not in use to allow easy storage and comes complete with a 10-metre power cable.

### D2592 Lawn Rake and Scarifier

**D8270. 15m Extension Cable £14.99**

**D3741 Circuit Breaker Socket £12.99**



**SAVE  
£50**  
WAS £149.99

## Electric Tiller

**Only £99.99 plus £4.95 P&P**

This Garden Gear tiller and cultivator combines the convenience and light weight of a mains electric tiller and garden rotavator, with the benefits of an extremely powerful 1050W motor that drives the metal tines through even the toughest ground with ease. With easy grip separate handles it makes manoeuvring the machine simple.

Whether you need to level an area or prepare new ground for planting, the tiller and cultivator will handle most soil types and will do the job in half the time of conventional tools. The compact cutting width of 32cm allows for easy guidance between narrow vegetable rows. Each 'pass' of the tiller will cultivate to a width of 25cm to a maximum depth of 22cm.

### D9377 Electric Tiller



**Garden Gear**



**SAVE  
£50**  
WAS £149.99

## LED Security Wall Light With Motion Sensor

**Only £14.99 plus £3.95 P&P**

**Buy two for £27.99**

Keep pathways, steps and alleyways visible at night with the help of these solar powered LED security wall lights.

Perfect for increasing your night time visibility for you and your guests, this light will also work as a deterrent to potential intruders. This smart stainless steel security light has no overheads or running costs, instead taking its power from its solar panel on the top of the unit and recharging throughout the day. This model also features a motion sensor that will automatically light up whenever you're within five metres of the light thanks to its PIR (infrared) movement detection. The LEDs have an eight hour working time after a full charge. Measures L17 x W8 x D5cm.

### D8589 LED Security Wall Light With Motion Sensor



**SAVE  
£10**  
WAS £24.99

**Order Hotline 0871 911 7011\***

**8am-8pm, 7 days a week. \*Calls cost 13p per minute plus your phone company's access charge.**

**Quote  
65579**

**Order online at**  
**[expressandstarshop.co.uk](http://expressandstarshop.co.uk)**

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RETURN TO: EXPRESS & STAR (65579), PO BOX 87, BRECON, LD3 3BE

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms)	Initial	Surname
------------------------	---------	---------

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (for queries only) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I enclose my cheque/P.O. made payable to BVG-GROUP LTD for £  Or please debit my card £  ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Maestro Issue No

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PLEASE SEND ME	CODE(S)	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
			POSTAGE	£3.95/£4.95
			TOTAL	



# Classified Ads

Buy Local, Sell Local

## funeral directors

**N.E.DOWNING**  
(Blackheath) Ltd

Independent  
family run  
Funeral Directors  
  
24 hour service  
Halesowen  
0121 422 2794  
  
www.nedowning.co.uk

## lost & found

**MISSING**  
Since Tuesday, Aug 30, in  
Bath Road, near Quarry  
Bank, tortey and white cat  
named smudge, brown  
beauty spot on cheek, small  
built, very timid,  
microchipped.  
Please check garages / sheds.  
Reward for safe return.  
call 07423 679287.  
No witheld numbers please

**1**  
**Family**

## elderly & disabled

**ELECTRIC ADJUSTABLE**  
Bed, single, 8 months old,  
cost £2,100.  
Sell £450 ono.  
Must collect.  
07443 229670

**MOBILITY SCOOTERS** from £350  
can deliver, servicing available.  
Call: Powerlink, Blackheath 01384  
25019 / 07831 246292.  
**WRECK STAIRLIFTS** recondi-  
tioned lifts from £799. New avail-  
able. 01952 405397/07897 273617

## jewellery & watches

**MORGANITE** and pink sapphire  
ring, rose gold, size N, 5ct stone,  
amazing. £600. 07817 078033.

**2**  
**Leisure Time**

## caravans / motorhomes

**A BEAUTIFUL PARK NR LUDLOW**  
Caravans 35x12 DG & CH from  
£15,000. 11 month holiday season.  
01584623433. www.bcpark.co.uk

**AVONDALE CLASSIC** touring  
Caravan, 2-berth, 15ft, lightweight,  
very good condition. £2,350 ono.  
01902 895481

**BESSACARR E425 MOTORHOME**  
4 berth, 34,700 miles, 2000 reg.  
16,000. Telephone 07811 256083

**BK CONTESSA**  
Bluebird, 2003, Static, 26ft x  
12ft Caravan, 2 bedroom, 6-  
berth, sighted close near to the  
river in Worcester.  
Very good condition.  
£8,500 ovno. 01691 659071 or  
07583 629907.

**CARAVAN AWNING** Quest  
Blenheim, full caravan awning, size  
12, used twice, £400.  
07779 943051. Dudley area.

**13FT PULLMAN** Green caravan  
awning, like new condition used  
once £200. 07577 994561.

**13FT PULLMAN** Green caravan  
awning, like new condition used  
once £150 ono. 07577 994561.

## caravans wanted

**WANTED**  
**CARAVAN WANTED**  
Cash on pick up asap.  
Caravan wanted.  
Call me on  
07717 090817.

## WANTED ALL CARAVANS

Any age or condition  
Also motorhomes wanted.  
**TOP PRICES PAID**  
Immediate collection.  
**CALL THOMAS**  
**07717 280 996**

## fishing

**FISHING TACKLE** wanted any-  
thing considered. New or Old  
01902 754011 or 07931 568716

## jumble sales / fetes

**BRIC-A-BRAC FAIR**  
Sunday 11th September  
  
KINVER COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
DY7 6ER  
10.30am - 4pm  
Tel: 01384 894464

## sports & leisure

**Free Ads**

**IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY**  
For items upto £250.  
Online at  
bookanad.  
expressandstar.co.uk

## what's on

## antique fairs

**★ ANTIQUE /**  
**★ COLLECTORS FAIR**  
CORNHILL HALL, HARLEY STREET,  
HALESOWEN, B63 3AT (NEXT TO WILLOWS).  
**FRIDAY 16TH SEPTEMBER**  
9.00am - 4pm  
07783 680 627  
www.blackcountryfairs.co.uk

**3**  
**Home & Services**

## household appliances

**FRIDGE FREEZER** in excellent con-  
dition. £85.  
07493 919511.

## items wanted

**ALL GOLD 9CT £300 PER OUNCE**  
**CASH PAID TODAY**  
**A GENUINE LADY BUYER**  
All Bewick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcraft  
• Lladro • Old coins  
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY  
• Diamonds and Gold Coins • Clocks • Paintings  
• ALL SILVER • All Oriental Items  
Pre 47 silver coins All war medals etc  
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING  
**01922 495066 or 07971 783206**

## A BEST CASH PRICE

**FOR ALL RAILWAY**  
**COLLECTIONS**  
Any gauge or age  
Hornby / Bachmann / Bowmans  
/ Roundhouse / Graham / Farsh  
/ any live steam. Also Die Cast,  
Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.  
01384 836219/07891 713547.  
thetrainmaster67@  
hotmail.com

**AIR RIFLES, SHOT**  
**GUNS, ANTIQUE GUNS,**  
**TAXIDERM - BIG BORE**  
**GUNS, TRAPS ETC WANTED.**  
**07968 624202**

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to care-  
fully consider all of their options  
before agreeing to the sale of any of  
their items.

**SPECTRUM GAMES** Wanted, also  
any old Crash magazines wanted.  
01902 892918.

HAVE YOU CHECKED your adver-  
tisement today? We would respect-  
fully remind advertisers that it is  
their responsibility to inform the  
publishers of any mistakes or in-  
accuracies on the first day of publica-  
tion.

## specialists at your service

## aerials

**AA DIGITAL AERIALS**  
**1 AERIAL INTO**  
**2 ROOMS £90**  
**WE WILL BEAT ANY**  
**WRITTEN QUOTE**  
**Work Guaranteed**  
**01902 858191**  
**01384 429166**  
**01543 439095**  
**01922 716029**  
**07633 738857**  
  
VISA  
CHECKS  
CREDIT CARDS

## alarms/security

**PREMIER**  
**ALARMS**  
Supplied and Fitted £195  
Servicing and Repairs  
12 Months Warranty  
All areas covered  
All quotes beaten!  
**Call: 0121 601 9791**

## carpet & upholstery cleaning

**A CLASS CARPET &**  
**UPHOLSTERY CLEANING**  
OAP discount. Recession Prices.  
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10  
**Call Paul 07870 341089**

## external rendering / insulation

50% OF ALL EXTERNAL RENDER-  
ING, small jobs no problem, fully  
guaranteed 07891 920567

## fencing

**PORTWAY FENCING**  
**SPECIAL OFFER**  
10 bays of quality fencing,  
concrete posts, gravel boards  
HEAVY DUTY PANELS SUPPLIED AND FITTED  
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656  
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm  
Sat 9am - 12noon  
83 Portway Rd Walsall  
**DELIVERY AVAILABLE**  
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

## gardening services

**GARDENS TIDIED** from £5 per  
garden, 25 years experience. Call  
01902 713108 / 07813 184086.

## gas fitting

**READERS ARE ADVISED**  
To check that anyone  
carrying out any Gas work is  
Gas Safe Registered.  
It is an offence under the Gas  
Safety (Installation and Use)  
Regulations 1998 to carry out  
gas work in the UK without  
being on the Gas Safe Register.

## painters / decorators

**DECORATOR**  
ALL domestic work  
undertaken  
Reliable & Affordable  
Special rates for OAPs  
No job too SMALL  
Call  
**07957 346 059**

## house clearances

**A ABSOLUTE BEST** cash price paid  
for house clearances and bereave-  
ments. Also removals undertaken.  
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

## plastering

**M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING**  
Services. Home/Garden Improve-  
ments.Mark or Sara. 07741 770857

## removals

**KT REMOVALS**  
12 years experience.  
SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS.  
LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.  
Free Quotes - Call Ric on:  
**07771 727119**

**A MAN WITH A VAN** Single items,  
flat house removals/clearances,  
local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121  
422 2999 or 07815 043724  
**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your  
Removal needs. 07429 453209/  
01902 830870 / 01384 940260.  
**CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN.**  
Removals, clearances, large/small.  
01902 741546, 07899 635852.

## Stourbridge Removals

**20+ YEARS EXP**  
Home, Office,  
Part loads, landlord  
clean & repair service.  
House clearances.  
Quality service guaranteed  
lowest rates  
Call John - 07802 876 876  
office - 01562 640 640

## roofing

**MG ROOFING** Flat roofs, tiling, roof  
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01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

## skip hire

**BLITZ**  
**SKIPS**  
■ AFFORDABLE SKIPS  
■ 2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE  
MON-SAT 7AM-6PM  
**01902 870370**  
**0121 517 1111**

## Classified Ads

BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

**GRINSELLS**  
**SKIP HIRE**

## IT WORKS FOR ME

Thanks to our  
Classified advertising  
in the Express & Star  
we are really busy!  
It definitely  
works for us!

## Grinsells Skip Hire.

**FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL**  
**01902 319 191**

Brought to you by **Express & Star**

**4**

**Pets & Animals**

## equestrian corner

**ALL READERS** are advised to  
check if Horses have the required  
Passport information.

**ENVILLE RIDE** Sept 11, 10am till  
1pm. Chidleys Farm, WV15 6EP.  
01746 780312. 07792 276912.

## guns & dogs

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**  
Advertisers must ensure that  
they meet all necessary legal  
requirements for owning and  
using guns.

## pets corner

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Please be aware that when  
purchasing a puppy there are  
some simple guidelines you can  
follow to ensure that you are not  
purchasing from a Puppy  
Farmer:  
1. Try to ensure you visit the  
puppy whilst it is still with it's  
Mother.  
2. Do not arrange to collect a  
puppy from any other location  
than that of the breeder.  
3. Ensure that you are given any  
KC documentation, if pedigree.  
Whilst Midlands News  
Association publications take  
great care to avoid publication  
of advertisements from Puppy  
Farmers we cannot accept any  
liability should readers  
purchase from this kind of  
establishment.

**BORDER COLLIE** puppies, red/rtr,  
parvo vaccinated and vet checked.  
07747 496737.

**CANARIES** Red Factor for sale, 4  
hens, 2 cocks, £9 each.  
01299 488096.

**MINIATURE PEDIGREE** Chi-  
huhua, female, multi coloured, all  
injections. £399. 07952 477308.

**SHIH TZU** Puppies, beautiful and  
healthy, wormed, vet checked, vac-  
cinated. £450. 01902 593134.

## vets

## Express & Star

**THIS SPACE**  
**COULD BE**  
**PROMOTING**  
**YOUR**  
**BUSINESS**

Every day our  
customers get a  
great response  
from Classified  
Advertising.

So could you by  
calling our friendly  
experienced Sales  
Advisors on  
01902 319191.

**5**

**Business & Farming**

## business opportunities

**READERS** are recommended to  
take appropriate professional  
advice before entering any obli-  
gations.

**6**

**Property**

## overseas property

**NOTICE TO READERS**  
Readers are advised to seek  
independent legal advice before  
entering into any financial commit-  
ments.

## properties wanted

**WE PAY 100% of purchase price**



**We buy any house**

● FAMILY BUSINESS ● COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU  
● FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE ● NO FEES/FREE SOLICITORS

**WE ALSO BUY LAND**

**0800 999 999 6**

or 01902 628047 24/7 www.black-countryhomes.co.uk

## Classified Ads

BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL



**IT WORKS**  
**FOR ME**

We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles  
for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with  
the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates.

Black Country Homes

**FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL**  
**01902 319 191**

Brought to you by  
**Express & Star**

**Need to sell your**  
**home fast?**

**We can help you**  
**make a fresh start**  
With solutions to suit...  
you can clear your debts  
and make a fresh start

**Purchase Agreed Within**  
**7 DAYS**

ALL CIRCUMSTANCES CONSIDERED  
COMPLETE ON DATE TO SUIT  
FREE VALUATION AND LEGALS  
FREE FRIENDLY ADVICE  
LOCAL COMPANY

## MARION PROPERTY SOLUTIONS

**WHY NOT CALL US TODAY**  
for an informal, friendly and confidential chat?  
**0121 405 0797** OUR LINES ARE OPEN 24/7

\*Terms and  
Conditions apply

## Home Cash Buyer

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish  
**£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££**

**Houses / Land Required**

Ring Paul 24/7 Local **07870 341 089**  
Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154  
Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049  
Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901  
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

## Classified Ads

BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL



**IT WORKS**  
**FOR ME**

"I am really pleased with the response  
I get from my Classified Advertising!"

Paul Westwood - Home Cash Buyer

**FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL**  
**01902 319 191**

Brought to you by  
**Express & Star**

**MORE CATEGORIES**  
**MORE CLASSIFICATIONS**  
**MORE CHOICE**



**01902 317878**

**Classified Ads**

## mobile homes



## MOBILE HOME

CH, DG, 2 double beds, kitchen  
diner, lounge, bathroom  
shower, garden, 5 minutes to  
shops/doctors/bus, quiet park  
in Broseley, Shropshire, pets  
welcome, no age restriction.

£65,000 ono.

01952 883554.

## accommodation to let

**A TWO BED FLAT** off Compton Rd,  
CH, DG. Off road parking. £115.50  
pw 01902 340073 / 07770 660636.

**NOTICE TO READERS** It is an  
offence under the Accommodation  
Agencies Act 1983, for an Agency  
to charge a fee simply for the regis-  
tration of your requirements and/or  
supplying particulars of premises to  
let.

**DOUBLE ROOM** Halesowen,  
working person only. £85pw inc  
bills & internet. Info 07974 780414.

**DUDLEY** Clean, furnished bedsit  
with own bath/kitchen. £87 pw, for  
mature DSS. 07550 002549.

**SMART ROOMS** in shared house.  
Netherton. from £85 pwk Single,  
£95 pwk DBL inc bills. No DSS.  
07970 717139 or 07940 116130.

**7**  
**Jobs**

## drivers

**HGV CLASS 1 BULK TIPPER**  
DRIVER - No nights out. Excellent  
rate of pay. Halesowen area.  
Rayven Transport 0121 559 3342

## employment wanted

**EXPERIENCED BRICKLAYER**  
seeks employment, private and  
commercial, all types of brickwork.  
07534 767256.







# Enticing Evoque excites

By Sharon Walters

**The only way is up, so the popular song goes. But just much further up can Jaguar Land Rover go?**

In a world still recovering from the global financial downturn of 2008, JLR has not escaped a slowdown in business but has kept its head a lot higher in the water than many.

And a lot of credit for that success is down to Midlands-built engines at i54 on the outskirts of Wolverhampton.

The ultra-frugal Ingenium diesel engines, built at the 500million pound facility which started full production last year, are used in several of JLR's cars. This year it was introduced to the Evoque range along with a facelift.

The four-cylinder engine is a masterpiece of engineering with two outputs, both economical, but the most economical version has CO2 emissions of just 109g/km, making it one of the UK's most frugal SUVs. Therefore more eco friendly and so attracting those who would love a Range Rover but either are put off by running costs or fear of being seen as an less than friendly to the earth – or a combination of both.

I tried out the higher output engine with 180bhp with 134 g/km in CO2 emissions. This two litre gave great performance all-round and my fuel figures almost reached the official 'claimed' figures by the manufacturer. I really did a lot of miles in it and overall managed close to 50mpg, not too many trips to the pumps in this car.

It was married to the super slick automat-

ic 9-speed gearbox, great for crawling in traffic and quick to respond to demand for overtaking. It has a wide band of pulling power which is a great advantage. And not just for overtaking that slow coach in front.

On top of all that the engine is so, so quiet, and so very refined.

Steering is sharp and responsive making the Evoque a real pleasure to drive. And while it's great on surfaced roads, if you do feel the need, it will take on not just muddy fields when trying to get a horsebox off, but properly challenging off-road conditions. I didn't do that in this Evoque but I did take on some pretty demanding challenges – sandy beaches, rocky and rutted uphill and downhill routes and some tough obstacles.

## Agile

My car was fitted with the optional Adaptive Dynamics (£800 extra) which firms up suspension and adds weight to the steering which makes it feel very agile.

It's good looking enough from the outside with a more feminine appearance than its more overtly muscular stablemates and inside there's plenty of upfront room for driver and front-seat passenger. The sloping rear end does reduce head space but it is not constrictive. And the boot, while fairly high up, has a wide mouth which makes it easy to loads.

A second option on my test car was the fixed panoramic roof with powered blind for £950. That really opened the cabin up and filled it with light even on a grey day.

Cabin quality, as you would expect from JLR, is excellent with loads of soft-touches finishes, and very difficult to find any fault with.

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.....  
**It's good looking enough from the outside with a more feminine appearance than its more overtly muscular stablemates**  
 .....

pops for me is the Evoque's touchscreen infotainment system which in the HSE Dynamic test car is Land Rover's best offering. There's an eight-inch high-touch resolution screen which responds to the lightest touch and when you want to connect to Bluetooth or enter a destination postcode on the navigation system, you don't need to take a degree in how to operate either operation.

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Standard equipment in this trim level is excellent even without the add-ons.

Entry level for the HSE Dynamic is £42,300 and that gives you a lot of car. But you really need to spend a few thousand extra to get the perfect package. Mine had goodies bringing it up to a shade under £50,00 – but money well spent if you have it.

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50th Anniversary in 2016, and produces 170PS and 250Nm of torque. The engine is paired to a Lineartronic CVT (continuously variable transmission).

Levorg is also fitted with Subaru's symmetrical All-Wheel Drive system; the only estate car with All-Wheel Drive as a standard feature at under £30,000. Subaru Rear Vehicle Detection\* system (SRVD) also comes as standard which alerts drivers to vehicles which are crossing behind.

A comprehensive safety package, SRVD combines three technologies: Blind Spot Detection, which alerts drivers to cars sitting in their blind spot; Lane Change Assist, which warns

drivers of fast-approaching vehicles behind when the driver indicates to change lane; and Rear Cross Traffic Alert, which detects vehicles passing behind when reversing out of a parking space.

Other standard features include Subaru Starlink; a 7.0-inch touchscreen infotainment, connectivity and navigation system, Subaru Intelligent Drive (SI Drive) which allows the driver to choose between Intelligent mode and Sport mode to suit their mood or surroundings.

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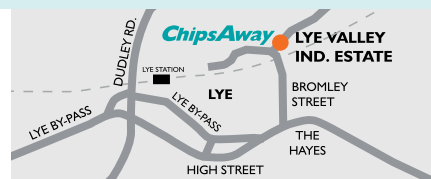
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Elijah Everill takes on Reuben Charlesworth, left, an eight-time world champion



Liberty Smith, left, spars with Kiyra Charlesworth, recent winner of the WAKO European Junior Cup



Connor Preece in action at the black belt school in Forge Lane

# Fight school ensures young students belt up

**THE trainers at Halesowen Martial Arts offer no short cuts to their students.**

They pride themselves on providing a first-rate standard of coaching, in order to develop future European and world champions in kickboxing and boxing.

The centre in Forge Lane, Dudley is run by Jason Charlesworth and his wife Julie.

Their two children, Reuben, aged 18, and 13-year-old Kiyra also live and breathe martial arts.

Jason, when he was aged six, was told by doctors he would probably never be able to walk due to having Perthes disease, a condition where the top of the thigh bone softens and breaks down.

He would defy the odds though to become a sixth-Dan black belt and Great Britain coach.

Teaching since 1993, and on a full-time basis for the last 10 years, he explained how combat sport has been ingrained in him for many years. "I boxed, I moved from Birmingham to Redditch," said Jason.

"I did karate, then taekwondo and then got into kickboxing, which is how I met my wife, Julie."

## Expert

"I had classes in Redditch, opened a club in Lower Gornal and then moved to Halesowen."

Julie is nothing short of an expert in martial arts as well – a fifth Dan black belt, Great Britain ladies coach, three-time world champion, five-time European champion and 20-time British champion.

She offers one-to-one training for ladies and trains young girls as well.

Due to Jason and Julie's undeniable commitment and expertise in martial arts, many may think their children would have probably followed suit from an

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Joe Edwards

**"We love the sport. We love what we do and I think if you find a job you love, life is easy."**

early age. While Reuben and Kiyra did try their hand early on, Jason insists they did not have much of an interest for a long time.

"They never really showed any interest to be honest," he said. "Reuben started when he was three but then lost interest and stopped."

"Like most kids, he was into other things like football but then he started again when he was about eight as some of his friends started doing karate and were taking black belts. Kiyra, I would say, has only really started properly in the last three months."

Now, Reuben's list of accolades is remarkable, especially considering he is only 18. In kickboxing, he is an eight-time world champion, four-time world team champion, three-time European champion and a nine-time British champion.

In boxing, he has a record of four fights, four wins. He is sponsored by a number of companies, including German sportswear giants Adidas.

Kiyra recently won the WAKO European Junior Cup, and Jason said: "She's through the roof now."

She's taken to it and loves it, but it's early doors. She won the WAKO European Junior Cup, which is a big thing. I think that was the hardest day of fighting that I have ever seen her at."

Jason and Julie not only take pride in their children's achievements, but those of every person who steps through the door at Halesowen Martial Arts.

Some students may achieve national, continental or world success, while others may be looking to just improve their fitness levels.

"I had to stop kickboxing when I was 23 and then I went on to teach, I was nothing like these guys," said Jason.

"When I used to fight, it was all open weight as well but now it's a lot more strict of course. I applaud all of them for what they're doing."

The centre is open from 7am until 10pm from Monday to Friday, and from 7am until 8pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

## Traditional

Jason says his, and his family's, love for martial arts is as strong as ever.

"Roughly there will be around 200 people a week through the doors," he added.

"We teach them the traditional side of martial arts and I would like to think that parents know if their child gets a black belt here, they have earned it."

"For 10 years we have been teaching full-time and we love the sport."

"I've got a metal hip replacement, but we always want to go down there and teach them, to train. We love what we do and I think if you find a job you love, life is easy."

● To get involved with the club, visit [www.hmac-midlands.com](http://www.hmac-midlands.com).



Jason Charlesworth, left, who runs Halesowen Martial Arts with, medal-winning students



Luke Ashby, left, and Tyler Cox are out through their paces at the gym





## Glassboys fight back to dodge upset

**Peterborough Sports 1 Stourbridge 3**  
STOURBRIDGE fought back from a goal down to see off plucky minnows Peterborough Sports and keep their hopes of another memorable FA Cup adventure on track.

An upset had looked on the cards after 33 minutes when the lower league hosts took a surprise lead. But 'Tom Tonks' audacious chip rounded off an impressive comeback from the Glassboys, who reached the second round of the competition last season.

Gary Hackett's men have enjoyed a rich vein of form in the FA Cup in recent seasons but were made to work for the victory against opponents who did their utmost to bridge the two-league gap.

Stourbridge controlled early exchanges with Chris Lait firing wide before confusion in the home defence almost allowed Matt Dodd's header in.

It was the Turbines who took the lead against the run of play through Avelino Vieira's towering header.

The Glassboys held their composure and drew level eight minutes later when Dan Scarr fired in a volley through a ruck of players.

The visitors' superior quality began to tell after the break and Luke Benbow nodded Stour into the lead on 55 minutes after latching onto Tonks' long floated pass.

The result was put beyond doubt five minutes later when Tonks spotted Sports keeper Sam Vince off his line and found the target with a stunning lob from just inside the Turbines' half.

The home side refused to give in and were frustrated to see a late effort controversially disallowed after a cross from substitute Dan Clements was headed home by a completely unmarked Mark Jones. But the referee had spotted an infringement and awarded Stourbridge a free-kick on the edge of the 18-yard box.

## Heathens' play-off hopes hit by third consecutive defeat

CRADLEY'S National League play-off hopes remain on a knife-edge after they slipped to a 58-32 defeat at Kent.

The Motor Market Heathens suffered their third straight defeat and were unable claim a consolation point at Central Park. Will Pottinger's side were well beaten and ultimately had no answer to the high-flying Kings on a disappointing evening. They managed only five race wins and saw their lower order frailties once again exposed.

Guesting No.5 Ben Morley provided three race wins against his former club but he was smartly passed by young reserve Jack Thomas for second in heat six as Kent struck their first 5-1.

No.1 Ashley Morris had to wait until 11 to take the chequered flag having been undone by Luke Bowen and Danny Ayres in tight battles. Middle order man Luke Chessell fought hard and held off the flying James Shanes in heat seven. Yet he fell awkwardly when attempting to prevent a Kent 5-1 in heat 10.

With rider replacement accounting for just two points in place of James Purchase, the Heathens fell short.

## KO specialist Clarke needs tougher test

HALESOWEN'S Lennox Clarke is crying out for a test after another knockout performance.

At Walsall Football Club on Friday night, the big-punching super middleweight was the sole Black Country influence on the bill taking place in the Stadium Suite, writes *Craig Birch*.

Boxing legend Ricky Hatton was on hand all night, co-promoting and coaching on a show called 'On the Rise', in conjunction with Errol Johnson's Black Country Boxing.

Unbeaten Clarke disposed of rubbish disposal merchant by trade Zahari Mutachiev with the second round just 13 seconds old, as the Bulgarian crumbled under the weight of his punches.

### Boxing

The right hand to the body caused damage and had already seen the European visitor visit the canvas in the first on the end of the flurry.

The killer blow was measured as Mutachiev went down again and referee Shaun Messer didn't afford him the opportunity to rise this time, waving him off.

Mutachiev was a late replacement for the usually-durable Vaidas Balciuskas at two days notice. It left Clarke having competed in just eight rounds of 28 scheduled from his last four fights.

The 25-year-old is next set for action on the Sky Sports televised bill in Birmingham on October 22, with talk of English title challenger Harry Matthews as his next opponent.

Clarke said: "I knew that Bulgarian bin man wasn't going to trouble me, so I took out the trash! I just want the rounds now. I want a test and then I'll step up and fight anyone.

"What I really want is someone to take me to places I've never been before, it looks like the Matchroom show might provide that for me. It's about getting used to those audiences under the big lights, maybe that's what's best for me next. That's the stage where I should be."

# CRICKET CLUB CUP TRIUMPH

**HALESOWEN Cricket Club made history last weekend as they claimed their first major silverware in 14 years.**

Around 300 enthusiastic supporters were at New Road to see them lift the Worcestershire Cricket Board Canterbury County Cup trophy with a 39-run win over Hagley CC on Sunday.

It was their first big success since winning the Birmingham League Premier Division back in 2002.

Fireworks from captain Wes Griffiths (52 from 25 balls) saw Halesowen reach an imposing total of 166-6 from their 20 overs.

The T20 skipper was quick to sing the praises of those involved behind the scenes after their unforgettable win. He said: "Without a doubt this is my most memorable day at Halesowen and one which we as a club are immensely proud of.

"Personally I had a day I could only have dreamed of, but it's also really great to do it with a group of close friends and mates who deserved their day.

### Chairman

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone behind the scenes for all the efforts they put in as its days like this that make you realise why you do it. A special thanks to the likes of chairman Richard Evans and groundsman Gary Patchett, as well as our great sponsors Big Pet Store.

"We'd like to wish Hagley CC all the best for the remainder of their league campaign. They gave us a very tough time at certain points in the game and played a big part in an exciting final."

Kester Moseley (30) and Hassan Bubbs-Quami (29) had set a strong platform for Griffiths late-innings firework. They quickly pegged back Hagley in their reply, with paceman Dylan Ross-Watt taking 4-9 to put them on the back foot before spinner Bubbs-Quami took 3-24 in the closing stages to see them over the line.

Coach Richard Cox, who played when they won the league, said: "As one of very few people that has spanned the 14 year wait for this, nothing gave me more pleasure than to see the thrill of this victory on these young players faces."

## It's the cup that cheers for Yeltz



Ethan Delaney heads home the opening goal for Halesowen during the cup qualifier against Colehill

### Halesowen Town 3 Colehill 0

HALESOWEN Town are in better spirits after advancing to the second qualifying round of the FA Cup with a 3-0 defeat of Colehill Town at The Grove. Yeltz had not been in the best of form going into this game, winning just one of six in the Evo-Stik Premier.

Colehill are in the Midland Premier – two divisions below Halesowen – but it was an exciting encounter. A goal inside the first minute from Ethan Delaney and a Kaiman Anderson double sealed the victory for the hosts.

The home side took just 29 seconds to make their mark. Danny Bragoli swung in a cross

which Delaney headed past Paul Hathaway. The visitors could have drawn level but Aaron Garvey hit the bar then Colehill had a goal disallowed as Luke Barlone tapped in after pulling the shirt of a Yeltz defender.

Anderson, on loan from Shrewsbury Town, and Jordan Goddard had efforts saved before Joe Colley fired past the far post. Both sides were down to 10 men as Delaney and Craig Milligan were sent off for an altercation.

Halesowen were awarded a penalty after Anderson was pulled back by Gavin Hurren and Anderson made no mistake from the spot. He got his second, and Yeltz's third, breezing past Hurren and firing into the roof of the net.

## Old Hales seconds are off to a flyer

**Dudley Kingswinford 2nds 13 Old Halesonians 2nds 27**

OLD Hales seconds started the new season with an away league game against neighbours Dudley Kingswinford, and a strong OH side took the game to DK from the off.

Within the first minutes Jay Reid looked to be heading for a try until the ball was dislodged from his grasp. Further pressure resulted in a penalty awarded in front of the posts and fly-half Oli Rayner stepped up to give the visitors the lead.

Old Hales continued to dominate possession but a resolute DK defence and handling errors thwarted scoring opportunities. After 20 minutes the home side drew level from a penalty kick.

Although Old Hales were dominant in the scrum and had the better of possession, once again penalty infringements by OH kept DK in the game and the home side took the lead 6-3 from a penalty kick.

Old Hales rallied and strong runs by James Saddler, Jim Stevenson and Sol Rogers gave them momentum. A powerful run by Saddler was continued by centre Andy Holloway who released right-wing Jay Reid to make up ground and force his way over for a try in the corner.

When the ball went to ground just inside the DK half and home side's right-wing was first to react, kicking the ball forward twice before winning the race to score close to the posts. The conversion was successful and DK led 13-10 at half time.

An Old Hales lineout close to the DK line saw the ball taken cleanly by Sol Rogers and carried forward by Tom King before passing to centre Ollie Kealey to score close to the posts. Oli Rayner added the conversion for a 13-17 lead for the visitors.

On 32 minutes Alex Herbert made a good break and although his pass went a bit wayward, wing Jay Reid retrieved the ball and made his way to the line to score in the corner, taking the score to 13-22.

With the final whistle looming, a kick deep into the Old Hales half was retrieved by Jay Reid who ran the ball to halfway and from the tackle the ball was moved quickly to the right wing as Jack Keeling outpaced the DK defence to score the final try of the game.

Old Hales thirds made a flying start to the new season running in ten tries in this friendly encounter with their opposite numbers at Bridgnorth, winning 5-66. Old Hales try scorers were: Calum Roberts (3), George Eccles (2), Dan Smith, Matt Weaver, Luke Irwin, Calvin Clements, Jamie Leach. Conversions by Gaz Price (6) and Andy Tromans (2).

★★★

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*Staff, students and governors of Leasowes High School are delighted with the school's GCSE results this year and wish to congratulate students and staff for their tremendous efforts and commitment to improvement once again.*

## ASPIRE & ACHIEVE

# Record-Breaking Results for Leasowes High School



This year's GCSE results have broken all records at Leasowes High School in Halesowen with the school's English Baccalaureate score rising to an impressive 34% against the national average of just 24%.

To gain this highly academic accolade students must achieve A\*-C GCSE passes in: English, mathematics, at least two sciences, a modern foreign language and either history or geography, and this success demonstrates to parents and students that real academic achievement in the toughest core subjects is delivered at the school. This score places Leasowes in the top

5% of schools in the Blackcountry and beyond on this measure and mirrors the changes that have taken place in the school in recent years.

The school is also celebrating a further 5% rise in its 5 or more A\*-C passes including English and mathematics, following last year's 10% increase. English achieved a 71% pass rate, maths 61%, core science 82%, French 91%, history and business studies 75% and Spanish 72%. Staff, students and governors of the school are extremely proud of these achievements and they indicate a very positive trajectory for the school, going forward.

The Leasowes' tally of A\* and A grades stands at 168 this year and amongst the school's top performers are Mia Nicholls who achieved 5 A\* grades, 3 A grades and 2 B grades, Joshua Marley who achieved 2 A\* grades, 6 A grades and 2 B grades and Luke McGurk who achieved 2 A\* grades, 4 A grades and 3 B grades. The school is rightly proud of all of its students and wishes them every success in the future.

This year also saw the school achieve a "GOOD" Ofsted rating in all categories with many outstanding features. Inspectors commented on the way in which the school had been "transformed" by leadership in the school since the last inspection and praised the excellent behaviour of students, the high achievement in core subjects and the quality of teaching and pastoral care. The school takes pride in these developments and especially appreciated inspectors' comments about students wearing the Leasowes uniform with pride.

In November the school will join the Invictus Education Trust, a group of five schools who share the same ambitions for their students: to offer an elite educational experience to all students, which is not elitist. The other schools comprising the Trust are: Ellowes Hall Sports College and Sixth Form, Kinver High School and Sixth Form, Ounsdale High School and Sixth Form and finally Crestwood High School and Sixth Form. Choosing to become part of this high performing and successful Trust brings the opportunity to add a Sixth Form at Leasowes and we look forward to opening this exciting facility in September 2017.

Work commences on the replacement of the school's AstroTurf pitches in the autumn term with work scheduled to finish in October. This new playing surface, lighting system and security fencing will take the school and community provision to a new level and the school is looking forward to giving its students the best possible surface to win on!

Leasowes High School is a fantastic place to Aspire and Achieve and we welcome parents, carers and prospective students to our Open Fagorn of events in September. If you want a school for your child that thrives on traditional approaches to the vital elements of a good education, look no further than Leasowes. We offer an environment which values strong approaches to discipline, uniform, homework, study and examination success, underpinned by a supportive and caring pastoral provision. Please come and see for yourself the bright future that Leasowes can offer your child.

## LEASOWES HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS 2016

### Open evening tours:

18.30 - 20.30

Tuesday 20th September

Thursday 22nd September

### Open morning tours:

9.00 - 10.30

Wednesday 21st September,

Friday 23rd September

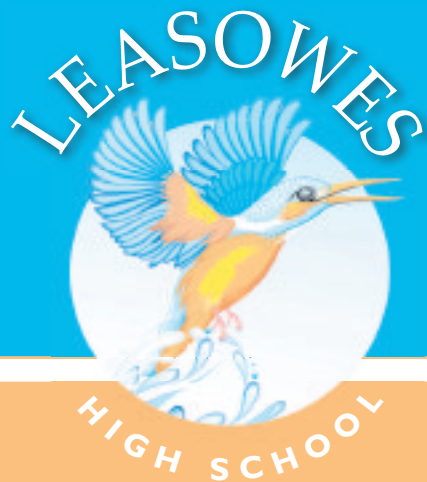
Tuesday 27th September

Thursday 29th September



Tel: 01384 816285 Email: [Openweek@leasowes.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:Openweek@leasowes.dudley.sch.uk) Address: Kent Road, Halesowen, B62 8PJ Bus routes: 002, 9, 63, 140, 141, 241





# UNLOCK THE DOORS TO FULFILL YOUR TR

HIGH SCHOOL

## ASPIRE AND ACHIEVE



*The Leasowes High School motto, 'ASPIRE AND ACHIEVE', emphasises our triple 'A' approach to student success. Traditional approaches are underpinned by respect, strong discipline and a sharp focus on*

*achievement in all its forms. Leasowes is a caring school that aims to offer an elite educational experience which is not elitist in nature and which provides our students with the knowledge, skills and resilience they will require to live happy, fulfilling and productive lives.*

*In January 2016, Ofsted concluded that we were a "GOOD" school in all categories and commented that, "The headteacher and other leaders have transformed the quality of education that the school provides since the last inspection. Senior leaders in the school have successfully created a shared vision to "Aspire and Achieve". We are very proud of what has been achieved so far but relish the challenges ahead in becoming the outstanding school that our community deserves.*

*The 2015/16 academic year has been very significant for the school and our 2015 English Baccalaureate score of 29% (National average 24%) placed us at the top of both Dudley and Sandwell LA's on this highly academic measure. Academic excellence is important to us and this progress is due to excellent teaching and the positive relationships that exist in our classrooms. "Teaching is particularly effective in English, mathematics and science." Ofsted 2016*

*Our "Grammar School" stream promotes excellent outcomes for the highest achievers, but the same level of care and support is shown to all students, regardless of their starting points. Ofsted recognised this in their report saying that, "Working relationships between pupils and teachers are highly effective and support learning well." Our excellent pastoral staff helped the school to achieve a national*

*award for our stance on bullying and parents can be assured that, "Pupils feel safe and are safe at school." - Ofsted 2016.*

*A school's culture is often defined by the way in which its students behave. Ofsted also pointed out that, "Pupils show pride in their appearance and their school as they are smart and wear their uniform correctly. In lessons, pupils listen carefully to staff and other pupils and respond quickly to instructions and requests. They are courteous, pleasant and helpful to adults and each other." These comments give a flavour of the calm and industrious atmosphere that pervades the school on a daily basis. Much of this is again founded in our strong pastoral support network. Year heads, pastoral managers, form tutors and peer mentors work seamlessly to ensure that our students are safe, happy and have every opportunity to thrive.*

*Opportunities abound for our students across all years. Each department recruits ambassadors to help run and support events and our junior sports leaders help to host and organise events including the school's sports day at Halesowen Athletics Track and inter-form and inter-school competitions. In upper school we have a team of senior prefects and prefects led by our Head Girl and Head Boy with their deputies. Furthermore, extra-curricular activities for our students range from Young Psychologists and Young Architects through to Scrabble Club, sports teams, drama, music and the Science Crest Team.*

*Next term the school will join the Invictus Education Trust, a group of four excellent and outstanding secondary schools comprising: Ellowes Hall Sports College, Kinver High School, Ounsdale High School and Crestwood High School. As part of this strong multi-academy group we will regain a Sixth Form at Leasowes, set to open in September 2017 and this will transform the prospects of our students. We are very excited about this development and along with our new astroturf facility, which will be replaced for September 2016, we are facing the future with confidence and the desire to Aspire and Achieve.*

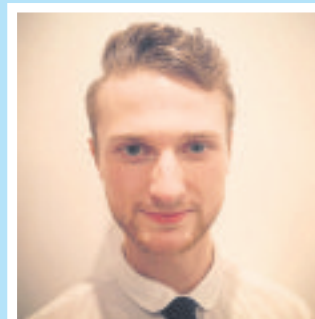
**Neil Shaw** | Headteacher

## Leasowes High School Attracts top Oxbridge Talent

The success of Leasowes High School has seen them continue to attract top class new recruits to the school. This year sees the arrival of three Oxbridge graduates to the Maths, Science and Computing team and a University of London graduate also joins the English department at school.

These high calibre graduates have joined Leasowes through the prestigious "Teach First" program. Headteacher Mr Neil Shaw commented, "We are delighted to have recruited such quality yet again to the teaching team at school. They bring with them incredible skills, enthusiasm and a steadfast commitment to ensure that students aspire to academic excellence and seize the life chances placed before them."

Oxbridge graduate, Miss Davies, joining the Science department said, "I enjoy working with young people and I am really looking forward to joining Leasowes High School. My interests include running, yoga, baking and science of course!" Mr Mitchell, joining the Mathematics team, also brings with him a sporting pedigree, having captained his college rugby team at Oxford. He said, "Inside the classroom, I hope to engage and inspire pupils with the problem-solving and inquisitive aspects of Maths, whilst outside of it I hope to get involved in the sporting and outdoors activities Leasowes High School has to offer. I am very excited to join in September, and look forward to getting to know pupils, staff and parents, old and new." Mr Abley, a graduate from Royal Holloway, University of London, where he studied English and Creative Writing, stated, "I'm very excited to teach here and see what Birmingham and the surrounding areas have to offer!" Mr Dunn, joining Computing, is looking forward to immersing himself into Leasowes school life, "I'm keen to get involved with some of the many extracurricular activities that Leasowes offers, especially in the music department."



**Mr Abley English Teacher**  
Royal Holloway Graduate



**Miss Davies Science Teacher**  
Oxbridge Graduate



**Mr Mitchell Mathematics Teacher**  
Oxbridge Graduate



**Mr Dunn Computing Teacher**  
Oxbridge Graduate

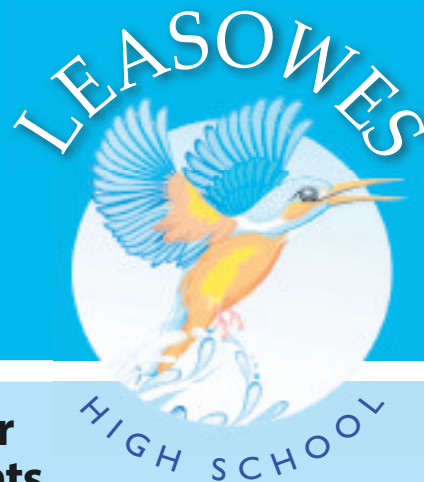
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# TO A BRIGHTER FUTURE... TRUE POTENTIAL...



## Students Achievements Celebrated at Leasowes High School

The end of the school year saw relatives, parents and friends of students at Leasowes High School invited in for a very special achievement celebration.

Certificates and awards were handed out to students across all years in recognition of their progress, effort and achievement across all curriculum areas at the school. Notable award winners included Luke Johnson, who picked up the Christina Edkins Award and Daniel Pearce who won both the Elwyn Thomas and Stourbridge College awards for his efforts during his time at the school. Julian Southall and Frances Collins were also celebrating after picking up the Sandvik Community Award.

Extra-curricular achievements were also acknowledged during the ceremony. Samuel Hawthorn and Nicole Thacker were named as Victor and Victrix Ludorum respectively for their contributions to Sport and Katie Taylor and Luke McGurk picked up the Business and Enterprise Award. Amongst awards given out for the Arts, Aiden Hall won the Andrews Hill Music Award, Jessie Underhill's contribution to music was recognised with the Holt Farm Award and Charlotte Upton and Hayley Green both picked up the Xpress Award for their outstanding contribution to the Performing Arts.

Headteacher Mr Shaw commented, "As a school we couldn't be prouder of our students. We push all students hard and it is so important that their efforts, endeavours and successes are recognised and shared with parents, carers and friends alike."



Daniel Pearce Award Winner

## Extra-Curricular Offering Delights Students

Leasowes High School has been praised by inspectors not only for its excellent academic curriculum but also for its extra-curricular offering.

Inspectors noted, "The school offers pupils a wide range of additional activities, including sports and other clubs as well as a variety of other enrichment activities and visits. Together with the formal curriculum, these make a strong contribution to pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development"

Every curriculum area within school offers either lunchtime or after school activities for students and the school runs numerous trips and residential opportunities for its students. Furthermore, many

students take ownership of these activities by acting as ambassadors for subjects. Students are also given opportunities to participate in a range of competitions covering many disciplines whether it be the annual sports day, creative writing, poetry, the National Maths Challenge, Science CREST Award, "bake-offs", regional cooking competitions, calendar art or competing for the school in one of its numerous school sports teams there is much to cater for every student's needs. For budding actors and musicians, the Arts department runs a choir, orchestra and stages an annual production. Look out this year for Mary Poppins!

All students at Leasowes are given the opportunity to participate in residential trips. This year this included the ski trip to Italy, language trip to Paris, Manor Adventure with the PE department and a theatre trip to London. Overnight expeditions are also integral to students participating in the school's Duke of Edinburgh Award groups.



Dance: "Some of the school's young dancers"



Artwork: "Aysha Shaikh's stunning calendar artwork"



Beauty and the Beast: "Charlotte Upton and Ava Gardner in Beauty and the Beast"



Luke Johnson receiving the Christina Edkins Award from Mr Shaw



Sandvik Community Award Winners Frances Collins & Julian Southall



Prom: "Annual leavers' prom held at Villa Park"

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# CELEBRATING SUCCESS



## Budding Young Medics at Leasowes High School Enjoy Their Chance at Surgery...



Operating Theatre Live is the UK's newest school based workshop that teaches human biology through the application of surgical procedure. The workshop came to Leasowes High School for one day when a selection of year 9 & 10 students worked with a medical anatomist to learn about the human body. They worked in a real operating theatre which involved the wearing of scrubs and face masks. The students got the opportunity to take part in activities including a simulated heart transplant, the dissection of a real GI tract and experience brain surgery on a real brain and skull.

Students were encouraged to think about a career in medicine and inspired to take this further.

**Year 10 student, Josh Stephenson commented:**

'It was so interesting learning about all of the parts of the body and how they work. As the back row turned around, out of nowhere they

could all see the stomach, liver and intestines of a pig which was disgusting but really cool at the same time. We even got to feel all of the different parts with our gloves.

After learning interesting facts about the body we all attempted a heart transplant before moving onto studying the animal's brain.

It was a brilliant day and a great opportunity to see medicine and surgery close-up.'

*Students were encouraged to think about a career in medicine and inspired to take this further...*

## 2013 Leavers Head for Degrees

Former students from Leasowes High School have moved on to continued success in further education. Among some of the 2013 leavers the school was proud to hear that Kiran Masaun has embarked upon a degree in medicine at the University of Liverpool, Kate Sherwood is studying Physiotherapy at Cardiff, whilst Atiqa Ahmed gained a place at the University of Birmingham to study Human Biology. Also at the University of Birmingham is Melissa Mariano, who is studying International Relations with French. Meanwhile Christopher Belfort and Peter Karra have both looked to engineering at university with Peter studying Engineering and Applied Science at Aston and Christopher studying Mechanical Engineering at Birmingham City

University.

Other notable under-graduates include Ben Guest, studying English and Creative Writing at Keele, Elisabeth McIluff at Leeds University studying Communication and Media, Nathan Beardsmore studying Dram at De Montfort and Nigel Albutt pursuing a degree in History and Politics at Coventry University. Congratulations must also go to Katerina Knight who gained a place at the prestigious Glasgow School of Art to study textile design.

**Are you a former Leasowes High School student? Why not update us on your progress? Contact us: [info@leasowes.dudley.sch.uk](mailto:info@leasowes.dudley.sch.uk)**

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